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~~THE~~ DISPATCHES
OF
FIELD MARSHAL
THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON, K.G.
DURING HIS VARIOUS CAMPAIGNS
IN
INDIA, DENMARK, PORTUGAL, SPAIN, THE LOW
COUNTRIES, AND FRANCE,
FROM
1799 TO 1818.

COMPILED FROM OFFICIAL AND AUTHENTIC DOCUMENTS

BY

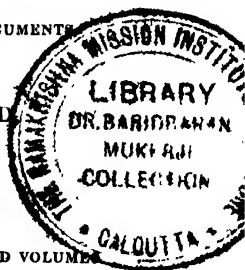
LIEUT. COLONEL GURWOOD

ESQUIRE TO HIS GRACE AS KNIGHT OF THE BATH.

SUPPLEMENTARY, TO THE FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD VOLUMES
RELATING TO INDIA.

LONDON:
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET.

MCCCXXXVII.



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LETTERS,
TO COMPLETE VOLS. I., II., AND III.
OF THE
DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S

DISPATCHES IN INDIA

1794 to 1818.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to the Right Hon. the Governor General.

‘ MY LORD,

‘ Seringapatam, 19th Aug., 1799.

‘ I take the liberty of recommending to your Lordship, that out of the fund allotted for the family of the late Tippoo Sultaun, a pension of twenty Cantarai pagodas per mensem may be allotted to the mother-in-law of Schuckur Oolla, the wife of Zemul ab Dien Taker. She received this sum from the late Sultaun.

‘ I have the honor to enclose a statement of the numbers of the family still remaining in Seringapatam, and an estimate of the carriage which will be required to take them from hence. It does not appear possible to furnish it till the army quits the field.

‘ I have the honor to be, &c.

‘ *The Right Hon.
the Governor General.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Harness, 74th Regt.

‘ SIR,

‘ Camp four miles west of Hullahall,
6th October, 1799.

‘ I beg that you will be so kind as to desire Captain Mackay to order sixty of the Hon. Company's draft bullocks to be taken from the place where they are grazing to Serin-

SUP. VOL.

B

gapatam, where they are to remain in readiness to bring off treasure to the army.

‘The person who goes to Seringapatam in charge of the bullocks, will receive orders to report himself to the paymaster.

‘I have the honor to be, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Harness.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Harness.

‘Camp four miles west of Hullahall,
6th October, 1799.

‘SIR,

‘I enclose you the extract of a letter from the Secretary of Government, which I beg that you will be so kind as to communicate to the parties concerned. When I return to camp, I will arrange the establishment of servants for the departments left under the orders of Major Corner and of Captain Mackay.

‘By your letter, and some I have received from Captain Barelay, I perceive that the brinjaries have been sent across the Werdah with a very considerable supply of rice. Three hundred bags from the grain department will, therefore, be sufficient for the present, and I beg that you will not send more, notwithstanding what was ordered in my letter from Soopah of the 4th instant.

‘I have the honor to be, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Harness.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Harness.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Camp, 28th October, 1799.

‘I received your letter respecting the grain in the grain department last night, and I will delay to order the committee to sit upon it till I return to camp. Lieutenant Campbell arrived this morning, and Colonel Campbell is rather better.

‘I shall be with you on the day after to-morrow.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Harness.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Harness.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 8th December, 1799.

‘ I have received and am much obliged to you for all your letters. I recollect perfectly the paragraph in my instructions to Colonel Campbell, a copy of which you have sent me, and I have given orders upon the subject of provisions for the 74th, which will be transmitted to you this day. They should have been issued before now, only that I imagined that you had a supply for twenty days of every thing excepting of arrack, and I knew that you would be able to get plenty of that at Bangalore, by the means of the persons belonging to the provision department, who had been detached from the army with you.

‘ Colonel Campbell gives a good account of himself, but still I wish, for his sake, that he would go to the Carnatic in order to insure his recovery.

‘ I have written to the military board on the subject of your tents. It will be necessary that you should have prepared an estimate of the materials, &c., which will be required to repair the tents which the committee have reported unserviceable; as, by my letter to Colonel Campbell of yesterday’s date, you will perceive that I have stated to him and to the Military Board the necessity of repairing them in case your corps should be moved. We have not a single tent in store at Seringapatam. I have desired the commissary of supply to be prepared at Bangalore to answer your indents for every thing that you will want, and I imagine that he will have made his arrangements before the papers can be returned from Fort St. George.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ Lieut. Colonel Harness.’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 15th Dec., 1799.

‘ I enclose you an extract of a letter from Colonel Kirkpatrick, which will account for the excess of the nanpervish compared with Macleod’s list. There is no such person in Macleod’s list as “Jybea Ama,” as you will perceive by a reference to it, and there is in mine. The difference in the

amount of the pensions between Macleod's list and mine is to be attributed to the alteration of the periods of payment. When I came to give the sunnuds I consulted the Paymaster respecting the nine payments in the year, and found it to be so inconvenient to him, that after having ascertained the annual amount of each pension, I thought it better to divide it into twelve payments, according to our system.

‘ The annual amount, however, is precisely the same as it would have been if the pension had been paid in nine payments, although the amount of each payment is different. The addition which I made to the list is the cause of the difference in the annual amount of the whole.

‘ As I told you before, I am not so certain about the list of nanperversh as about the other pensioners, as some were granted by order of Colonel Kirkpatrick, of which I never had a return. The best method of proceeding would be to keep a certain latitude for them.

‘ I intend to include Chiablas in the Family Fund, as we settled when I saw you last.

‘ I shall do as you desire respecting the Bengal troops when they march. In the meantime I write to Colonel Stevenson this day respecting the conduct of the battalion at Chittledroog.

‘ I enclose the extract of a letter which I have received from Colonel Sherbrooke respecting the conduct of the amildar at Chenapatam. In my opinion, the rule of proceeding between officers and amildars is, to take the most serious notice of the conduct of the former, when it appears to have been such as to deserve the complaint of the latter, and never to pass over any disrespect from the amildars to the officers. Upon that principle I removed the officer from Anantpoor, of whose conduct complaint was made.

‘ It is a mistake to suppose that the amildars in the country are uniformly attentive to the officers, either passing with detachments or travelling. They are generally so, I allow; but I have had some serious and well-founded complaints of their behaviour, which I have not brought forward, and Purneah can let you know that I had some reason to complain of one of them in a case which went to the starving of the people who were with me in Soonda.

‘ We well know the character of the natives of this

country ; when they are likely to be supported they are the most tyrannical and impudent of men, and there is no falsehood which they will not tell in support of, or as an excuse for their conduct. The unpleasant situation in which officers are who travel through the Tanjore country ought to be a warning to us here to avoid the error into which the gentlemen there have fallen, and to take the most serious notice of any attempt at disrespect made by people in authority. The case is just this; an officer of rank is travelling, he sends for the amildar to speak to him, who refuses to attend to him. Without entering into the other subjects of dispute, or other circumstances which ought to have gained for Colonel Sherbrooke the greatest respect and attention ; such as his having an hircarrah and a purwunnah from Purneah, his acquaintance with the amildar, to whom, as commanding officer of Seringapatam, he had given a cowlmah, there is enough in that statement, to draw upon the amildar the displeasure of the government, if it is to proceed in these kind of disputes according to the only rule, which, in my opinion, can ensure for the officers who are obliged to travel the conveniences which they have a right to expect, and for the amildars good treatment.

‘ I have no object upon this subject excepting tranquillity in future, and I therefore recommend that whatever complaint may be made of the officer, the amildar who has shown an inclination not to be quite so civil as he ought to be may be removed to some situation not immediately on the high road to Madras.

‘ I have received a letter from Colonel Hart, in which he enclosed me an order which he has given to a battalion of sepoys to march to relieve the 1st of the 8th in Soonda. I had, in consequence, yesterday written to Captain Macfarlane, to order him to begin his march towards Chittledroog as soon as he should be relieved. But from what you say in your letter, I have this day written to him to desire that he will halt at Hullihall till he shall hear further from me ; and I have directed him to endeavor to ascertain the truth of the intelligence which you have received. The 4th regiment of cavalry has already arrived at Bangalore, the 1st at Chittledroog, the 2nd at Sera ; the 4th could be up with them before they could be ready to begin any operations.

They ought, however, to be all together, and to be near the south Marhatta frontier, according to my former proposition.

‘ In consequence of a letter from Colonel Oliver, an extract of which I enclose, I wrote to Government for an allowance for the destruction of tigers in the neighbourhood of Chittledroog, similar to that given in the Baramahl. I enclose you the copy of the answer.

‘ I have received orders to discharge the bullocks and departments which I have completed.

‘ Your man has been with me with a statement of the quantity of timber which he wanted. I diminished it to that which he thought would be sufficient to complete the buildings which you told me you intended to begin immediately. Even that the stores could not at this moment supply. However, we shall have more very shortly. He has got the carts and bullocks to bring the earth for the wells, and I believe is going on.

‘ I have established the zabeta for the shops in the Fort, as fixed by Macleod. It is to be paid annually, and when Symonds comes, we can make an arrangement for its collection, and for that of the land-rent of the island after the present year. The shops in Ganjam are rent free till the 4th of May, 1800, by agreement.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 16th Dec., 1799.

‘ I enclose the copy of my letter to Government upon the subject of the settlement of the accounts of the Family Fund.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 17th Dec., 1799.

‘ I have received from Government a copy of their letter, to you of the 10th inst., and I lament that it did not arrive before I sent that, a copy of which went to you yesterday. By the letter from Government to me, as well as that to you,

it appears that they were not aware of the letter written to me by Colonel Kirkpatrick on the 24th of August, which I have considered as sufficient authority for granting the pensions asked for in my two letters of the 31st July and 19th August. I shall this day send to Webbe a copy of Colonel Kirkpatrick's letter.

'The 2nd of the 12th and 1st of the 2nd are to be in Seringapatam. The 1st of the 8th and 2nd of the 9th go to Hyderabad; the 1st of the 1st to Chittledroog. The 77th is ordered into Mysore from Malabar, and a battalion of sepoys from Canara country into Bednore. It shall go into Soonda, where, with two battalions, we shall be very respectable. I have written (privately) to the Adjutant General, to inform him that I should not move the 1st of the 8th until I heard something more of the intelligence which you sent me the other day.

'I have just heard from Sir William Clerke that he has got one regiment of Europeans and two battalions of sepoys at Goa, which, being upon the back of the Kolapoor man, will make him cautious how he offends us.

'I enclose you the copy of a letter received from Uhtoffe, by which you will perceive that we have but a small chance of establishing the tappall to Poonah.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Harness.

'MY DEAR COLONEL, 'Seringapatam, 18th December, 1799.

'You must excuse me for not answering your letters regularly, but the truth is that I have not time always to write to every body to whom answers are due, and I am obliged to begin by those which are most pressing.

'Captain Aytone has my permission to go to Krotenguy for the time that you mention.

'I am glad to find that your quarters are so good, but, as the 77th are ordered into this country, I do not imagine that you will occupy them for any length of time. I should have written to Colonel Campbell to apprize him of this circumstance, but as his state of health is so bad, and I know him

to be affected by any circumstance which alters the situation of the regiment, I have thought it better to communicate it to you, and to leave it to you to apprize him of it when you think you can do so without injury to himself.

‘ I cannot too strongly press upon you the necessity of advising him to go to the Carnatic. I should write to him again upon this subject, only that it might be considered a bore, and might do more harm than good.

‘ I have written to the Military Board about your tents, and I hope that I shall get the money for them.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Harness.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 19th Dec. 1799.

‘ I enclose a paper which I have received from Bombay about the elephants which had formerly been in the possession of Syed Sahab. Your works are going on. I have some more timber for your man, and I have sent him some trees, and shall have some more for him shortly.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 20th Dec., 1799.

‘ I enclose you an extract of a letter received this day from Government. Let me know in what manner I shall proceed with your house. It appears to me that the best way would be to order your servant to complete your offices according to your plan, and to repair the roof of the palace by means of the native maistries, and to order payment of his bill. If you approve of this, it shall be done.

‘ I will order the wardrobe for the women, and we can settle the mode of payment hereafter.

‘ Colonel Pater has informed me that he has received complaints from his regiment at Sera that they can get no grass there, and that the horse-keepers are obliged to go to a great distance for grass. It will probably be in the power of Purneah to apply a remedy to the first; but as to the second, I see none, excepting to remove the regiment to a

better station. I wish that Government would reconsider my proposition to post the cavalry in one place on the bank of the Toombuddra, to put one battalion of native infantry into Hurryhur, and three between Nuggur and Soonda. That frontier is not now secure from insult, and, in my opinion, will be insulted, should the Kolapoor man succeed against Goklah.

‘You mentioned some time ago that Purneah would bid for the gram contract when it was offered. In case you should not have observed that the Military Board has advertised it in the newspaper, I mention it to you.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Serlingapatam, 21st Dec., 1799.

‘I have just been down at the Laal Baug, and I find that your works are going on well. Your man had begun a wall close to the water-course, and if that should at any time hereafter let any water through, your wall would suffer and probably come down. I have therefore desired him to cut away half the thickness of the wall which he has begun, to leave about a foot distance between the water-course and your wall, which may answer for a channel for the water which will ooze through, and to add to the other side of the wall the thickness which he takes from that on the side of the water-course. The foundation of the whole proposed range of offices is laid, and the walls about two or three feet above the ground. It is unfortunate for the sake of both Gordon and you, that he should have built his house in the garden, as it prevents either house from being private. What I should propose would be to wall off that part occupied by him, to have a common entrance where he now drives in his phaeton, which might be made in such a manner as that you would not interfere with one another. If you wish it, I will have this done before your return, and as walls are not very handsome, I will cover those which must be near your house with a creeper.

‘I have received your letter of the 19th. I wrote to Webb about the bridge, and sent the estimate.

‘ I have sent you some plantain trees, and shall have others for you when the season for cutting arrives.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 22nd Dec., 1799.

‘ I have received your letter of the 13th inst., from Mallavelly, by the hands of Mahomed Yaseen, formerly nanperverish. By the letters from Government it does not appear that I have any authority to grant any further pensions, and I therefore think that you had better give this man a sunnud.

‘ It seems that your letter upon this subject was written before you received the last intimation from Government.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 24th Dec., 1799.

‘ I enclose you a letter from Captain Munro, and I shall be obliged to you if you will return it to me.

‘ A reference having been made to Government by Captain Graham, nothing can be done in the business of which he complains till their decision arrives. I have not written to Captain Munro, nor shall I. You will probably be near him, and instruct him as you think best. I was at your house yesterday; you have many people employed, but your work does not advance. I understand that they do not work during many hours in the day, and I have therefore desired Mr. Piele to speak to your dubash upon the subject. I am afraid that by their idleness the work will be more expensive than we expected, and that they will bring us to disgrace.

‘ I enclose you the copy of a letter from Captain Mackay. I do not yet know how many bullocks are added to each karkana in consequence of the arrangement which I made some time ago, but if any of the calves to which he alludes are of a size and age fit for work, it will be desirable to have them transferred to Captain Mackay as soon as possible.

' I intend to go to Mysore the day after to-morrow to see the Rajah.

' Believe me, &c. '

' Lieut. Colonel Close. '

' ARTHUR WELLESLEY. '

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close,

' MY DEAR COLONEL,

' Seringapatam, 24th Dec., 1799. '

' I have spoken to Barclay respecting Seyd Saheb's camels; he still thinks that they were not bought, but he says that, even if they were, they are now dead, and there is an end of them. He also says that they might be set off against the elephants which Kawder Bodeem has got.

' I have lately recommended to Government to dispose of all the camels; and it might be proper, instead of paying Seyd Saheb, to send him the number which we received from him; of this, however, you are the best judge.

' There is to be a native corps from the Bombay establishment at Hullahall in Soonda, another at Nuggur, and another European corps at Chittledroog. It appears to me, that the best way of paying the first would be for Government to order the collector in Canara to make issues to the Bombay Paymaster in Canara upon his receipt. Munro and the Paymaster can then settle whether the advances shall be made in cash below the Ghauts or by bills upon his amildars in Soonda. I have written to Hart upon this subject; and he thinks that this plan will answer.

' The best method of paying the Bombay troops at Nuggur and at Chittledroog will be by means of our Paymaster. He makes advances to the commanding officers of corps upon their receipts, and they settle their abstracts, accounts, &c. with the officer at Bombay. It will then be necessary to provide a sum at Nuggur amounting to about 3000 pagodas per month, and another at Chittledroog amounting to about 6000, in addition to what we receive there at present from Purneah's amildars. If you approve of all this, let me know it, and I will write to Government upon the subject.

' Munro has paid Macfarlane 3000 Behaudry pagodas, for which the latter has given his receipt. I have desired Mr. Gordon to send Munro a bill upon the Paymaster-General at Madras for that sum. Macfarlane's receipt will go back

to him, as Mr. Gordon has got his abstracts with a receipt to them.

‘I have just received your letter of the 24th. You are the best judge what ought to be done with the amildar at Chenapatam. Colonel Sherbrooke complains of him, and it appears by the man’s own account that he had no reason to complain of the Colonel. As he had a gentleman with him who understands the language, there could be no doubt of his having refused to go to Colonel Sherbrooke. This the amildar now denies; but I observe a probability that it is true even in the excuse which he makes; viz. that he had not received orders to advance and meet him. Colonel Sherbrooke is not a man who requires all the extraordinary attentions described in your letter, nor, if he did, is it probable that any of the amildars would pay them; but it is proper that he and all the officers passing the road should receive civility, and therefore it is that I wish that this amildar may receive a check for his conduct, which will be an example to others. Of this we may be very certain, that the officers will not bear incivility, and therefore it is better for all parties that the natives should understand at once, that they are to be attentive to travellers.

You must be as sensible of this as I am, and whatever you will do will be right.

I gave Butcha Rap a letter yesterday to send to Captain Deas, with 100 horsekeepers and four gram kettles, which he has procured. The Bengal columns have marched, and are to go to Madras, to be embarked there for Bengal. I enclose the copy of an order which I issued yesterday, and I hope that we shall have no complaints of them.

‘It would be very desirable to have an order given out, stating the number of coolies which an officer may call for from a village, the distance which he may be allowed to take them, and the amount which he is to pay to each. If you will speak to Purneah upon the subject, and let me know his opinion and yours, I will issue orders which will prevent complaints (if possible) in future.

‘We can make the payments on the beginning of January without the assistance of the lac of Cantarai pagodas which you gave to Mr. Gordon. He, however, will require your assistance in January, as he did in this month, for the pay-

ments at Bangalore and Chittledroog, and Mr. Gordon will let you know to what extent. Let us know as soon as possible if Purneah should not be able to lodge money at these places, as, if he cannot, we must send it from hence.

' After the capture of Seringapatam and before the country was given over to the Rajah, some brass swamics, which were in the toshckana, were given to the brahmins of different pagodas by order of Macleod and the General. The prize agents require payment for them, and say, that if they are not paid for, the Committee will charge the value against them. This amounts to about 500 pagodas. Butcha Rao, to whom I have spoken upon the subject, says that, as they were given to the brahmins by order of the General and before the country was given to the Rajah, it is not proper that he should pay for them. I have desired him to give the prize agents a receipt for the swamics, and, as it appears that they are to be paid for, you will be the best judge, whether by the Rajah, by the Company, or *by the General*.

' Believe me, &c.

' *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

' ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

' MY DEAR COLONEL, ' Seringapatam, 28th December, 1799,

' I was at your house the day before yesterday, and had a long conversation with your servant. I find that your works are going on, although slowly, yet that he has made such contracts as will prevent the delay from creating any very great expense. I shall go to Laal Baug whenever I have time.

' I went yesterday to Mysore, and was happy to find the Rajah so much improved. It gave me great satisfaction also to see the progress which has been made in building the palace and the works of the old fort. These are strong proofs that the conveniences and prejudices of the family are not unattended to. I will not do anything in regard to this non-purverish till I hear further from you.

' I have written to Campbell a long letter about the nerriek of exchange, in which I have endeavored to explain the principles of the whole system of shroffing, against the evils of which his regulations are to guard. From what I am going to mention to you, however, I am afraid that if the

nerrick at Bangalore is permanently fixed, I must loosen my system here, and must allow the exchange to fluctuate.

‘ In all the conversations which you and I have had upon this intricate subject, we have agreed that the shroff derived a profit only by fluctuations. It is therefore clear that in Seringapatam there is no, or but little profit, and that there would be no shroffs here if they did not find one elsewhere, or that they would combine to force me to allow the exchange to fluctuate. I have lately made inquiries upon the subject, and I find that the great shroffs here have houses at Bangalore, at Sera, and at the principal places on the Malabar coasts, and they make their profit by the fluctuation at those places.

‘ Seringapatam is a place of great security, where there is much trade, and of course exchange of money. In order to have this security, the shroffs forego the advantages which they would derive upon the fluctuation in the exchange, and they have all the advantages of the fluctuation at places at no great distance, where the exchange is not fixed. But fix that exchange, and there is an end of their means of livelihood; and of course they must either abandon the trade entirely, or force me to allow a fluctuation in the place where they carry it on.

‘ I doubt whether the destruction of our fixed nerrick at Seringapatam will not be an inconvenience to the country, as well as to us; and therefore nothing ought to be done which can endanger it.

‘ Let me know your opinion upon this subject. There is no reason, however, why Campbell should not now alter the nerrick so as to make it more convenient to Purneah.

‘ One of the principles resulting from the position that the shroff’s profit is made by fluctuation is, that if the exchange is fixed, it is immaterial what proportions of gold, silver, and copper are exchanged for one another. The Company’s exchange, therefore, is as convenient as any other, and as near the standard relative value of the three metals; and as the fixation of the nerrick, was readily adopted by the shroffs in Seringapatam; in the same manner, if the exchange is allowed to fluctuate from month to month in any place, provided the shroffs can know in one month what value relatively to each other the different coins in use will bear in the

next, it is immaterial to them what that value is. By means of their correspondents and connexions in other places, they will be prepared for, and will gain by it.

‘What I should recommend would be, that Campbell should fix a reasonable nerrick, and inform the shroffs that in fifteen days that shall have effect; and then fix another, which he must likewise communicate to them, and inform them that that must have effect in the following month. Thus he will free himself from a part of the grievance felt, at the same time that his operations will not affect us here. I shall not relieve your cavalry for some time.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Serengapatam, 30th Dec., 1799.

‘I enclose a letter which arrived yesterday for you, from the Rajah of Koorg, and one which came with it for me. I shall write a civil answer, and not enter into any one of the topics which he has started.

‘I sent you a letter yesterday from Uthoffe, which I opened, as it was directed to you or to me.

‘I now enclose the order omitted in a former letter. The Bengal troops have marched, and I have heard no complaints; I do not send after them your routes, as I hope they will be nearly out of the country before they can receive them.

‘When you send me the papers, which you say are in your contemplation, I will consider them, and shall issue orders to the troops accordingly.

‘I was at your house yesterday, which is getting on tolerably, but not very quickly.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘I have written to Munro, to desire that he will give Macfarlane 3000 Behaudry pagodas, in January.’

residing in the Carnatic and Baramahl to be paid by the Company's Paymaster, and (I suppose) chargeable to the Company; those at Madras chargeable to the Rajah.

' In conformity to Webbe's desire, stated in the endorsement, I propose to send him a list of all the pensions which I have granted since the receipt of Colonel Kirkpatrick's letter of the 24th August, divided into the different classes. These will be confirmed, and then the matter will be smooth. I likewise propose to transmit to Doveton the account of payments to the family here made by me. I will, however, send neither of these papers until I hear from you in answer to this letter.

' Webbe tells me that an order upon the subject of prize affairs is arrived from Bengal, and will be published here in a few days; he also says that an arrangement is made for Tanjore, by which the whole country is permanently annexed to the British empire. He says that it will be carried into execution in a few days.

' I enclose you a curious packet of papers which I have received from Cummer Oo Dien. I shall send him a civil answer this day, and inform him that you are gone to the frontier, where you will settle every thing with him.

' The walls of your offices are raised to within about four feet of the height which it is intended they should be; it will take, however, ten or twelve days to build them up, as the people cannot build more than about a foot and a half in a day, which must be allowed to dry and settle for three or four days before more can be added to it. In the mean time the doors and door-cases are nearly ready, as is the roof; so that I have hopes that the offices will be finished by the end of the month.

' I have received a letter from Campbell, in which he says that you and Purneah settled the exchange at Bangalore. I conclude that he showed you my letter. If you are of the same opinion with me upon the subject of fixing permanently the nerriek of exchange in the principal places about Seringapatam; and if, in consequence of leaving it subject to variation, the Rajah should suffer in his revenues, would it not be possible and proper to make the people pay the circar according to the exchange fixed at Seringapatam? This, it

must be allowed, is as nearly according to the value of the different coins as it can be made.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 7th January, 1800.

‘ I some time ago addressed Government upon the subject of certain wounded inhabitants of Seringapatam, and sepoys in the service of the late Tippoo Suldaun, who had received medical assistance, and had been fed since the fall of the place by order of the Commander in Chief. Some of them still remained in the hospital, and others were disabled by their wounds in such a manner as to render it very improbable that they would again be able to gain their own livelihood; Government conceiving, as it appears, that these natives were in the Company’s service, desired that I would order an invaliding Committee to assemble and examine and consider their cases; and that I should transmit their proceedings to the Commander in Chief. Having done so, it appears by the enclosed letter that Government now intend that these invalids should be pensioned, and that the burthen should fall upon the Rajah.

‘ There are some of these invalids still in the hospital, and they, as well as others who do not require medical assistance, but who are entirely disabled by their wounds, receive three quarters of a seer of rice and one pice per day; I propose to keep them upon this allowance until you can make a proper arrangement for them in concert with Purneah.

‘ I will to-morrow transmit you a list of the names of those who will receive this allowance, and a copy of the proceedings of the invaliding Committee who considered their cases.

‘ I enclose you copies of two letters from Captain Macfarlane. If Goklah falls a prey to this Dhoondiah, I think it probable that the peace either of the Rajah’s, or of the Company’s territories, will be disturbed.

‘ Believe, me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ The 74th regiment are ordered to Trichinopoly, and the 77th are coming from Cannanore, on their way to Chittled 2

droog, where it does not appear that there are any accommodations for them.'

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

' MY DEAR COLONEL, ' Seringapatam, 9th January, 1800.

' I received your letter of the 6th last night. I perceive that your ideas and mine agree respecting the pensions, excepting in the case of those not upon the Family Fund residing in the Company's and the Nabob's territories. Your idea, where we differ, appears most correct. I have this day sent to Webbe the statement for which he wishes, and of which I enclose you a copy. It includes your friend at Mallavelly as a nanoperverish.

' To-morrow I shall transmit to Colonel Doveton an account of the sums drawn by me from the Family Fund; and then I hope that I shall have done with this business.

' I have ordered the detachment from Cankanelli, in compliance with Purneah's wishes.

' I enclose the copy of a letter from Captain Munro. I have ordered him to remain where he is, or to take up such other position as will enable him to fulfil the original object of forming his detachment, as well as to protect the country from the depredations of the Soonahgul man.

' As it is probable that Cummer Oo Dien will not now attack Punganoor, the two objects may not be incompatible. I am obliged to delay till to-morrow to send you the papers respecting the wounded inhabitants.

' Believe me, &c.

' *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

' ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

' MY DEAR COLONEL, ' Seringapatam, 10th January, 1800.

' I enclose two letters from Captain Munro; I have, in answer, warned him against committing himself with Cummer Oo Dien, against pursuing the Soonahgul man into the Nizam's territories, or suffering Cummer Oo Dien to come into the Rajah's. I have recommended civil *unmeaning* communication, if even any should be desirable.

' I have arranged for the wounded inhabitants and sepoy

as follows; and I will keep my letter open to the last moment to send you lists of them. If you do not get them this day you shall to-morrow.

‘They have hitherto received three quarters of a seer of rice and three pice, or thirty cash per day: the expense to the Company, about one fanam each. As they would be much better enabled to live by getting the fanam than by getting the rice and the pice, I have determined to give it to them.

‘They were nearly all examined by an invaliding Committee; from those which this rejected I have withdrawn the allowance, and have extended it to a few who are in the general hospital, who were so sick as to be unable to attend the invaliding Committee, and whose names do not therefore appear on its proceedings. The whole number is under ninety, so that the expense will amount to about two pagodas per day.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 13th January, 1800.

‘ I enclose the copy of a letter from Captain Macfarlane. I have recommended to Government that the 1st of the 8th may be left in Soonda till the event of the approaching contest is known. I likewise enclose some papers received from Cummer Oo Dien.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 17th January, 1800.

‘ I have received your letter of the 13th. Long ere this you will have received the account of the wounded inhabitants and sepoy, and will have perceived that the temporary provision which I have arranged for them is not extravagant.

‘ I saw a letter from Mr. Bowles some time ago, and I desired Captain Barclay to inform him, that as I concluded he had reported himself to head quarters, he would do well

to apply there for leave for himself, and for orders for his detachments to march, which, under the existing circumstances, I could not give him.

‘Your business at the Laal Baug is going on well. In a few days the cook room and the remainder of that side of the building will be covered in, and I expect that the whole will be finished by the end of the month.

‘I have had a conversation with Butcha Rao about the roof of the palace, which will be begun in a few days; your doors, painting, &c., are going on well.

‘If possible to obtain it, Mr. Gordon will want, as soon as he can get it, about 17,000 rupees at Nuggur; I think you told me, in a former letter, that Purneah could give that sum there monthly.

‘There has been some difficulty between Munro and Mr. Gordon respecting the payment of the Behaudry pagodas, which the former advanced to Captain Macfarlane.

‘Mr. Gordon sent him a bill for star pagodas upon the Paymaster General, calculating the exchange as ordered here by the General, and which is in future the Company’s exchange. Munro says that he cannot take it, as it is not the exchange settled in Canara, which is 10 per cent. I have recommended that they should settle the matter, or rather that they should shove it off their shoulders on those of the Revenue Board, and of Ben Roebuck, by Mr. Gordon giving Munro an order upon the Paymaster General for the amount in Behaudry pagodas instead of in stars; I rather believe that this expedient will be adopted.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Serlingapatam, 23rd January, 1800.

‘I have received your letter of the 20th, and I have, in consequence, ordered to Nundydroog the two companies of the 5th regiment, now at Bangalore, a troop of cavalry, two field pieces and artillery attached. I hope that they will be at Nundydroog on the 25th.

‘I have desired Major Cuppage to station Captain Irton in Gonnair Pollam, and have left it to his discretion to weaken Captain Munro to such extent as he might find ne-

‘. . .’

cessary: under all the existing circumstances, however, I think it desirable that he should be strong. I have ordered Major Cuppage to draw in the post from Dronelly, and Lieut. Colonel Tolfrey to relieve from Mudgherry that at Chenroydroog. If, however, it is clear that the post at the latter place will not be wanted, it will be best that it should be called to Nundydroog without waiting for the relief. Of this, being on the spot, you will be the best judge, and will make Major Cuppage acquainted with your wishes.

‘ When the whole force shall have arrived at Nundydroog, it will be a respectable reinforcement. If it wants an increase, we must add cavalry to it from Bangalore, until I can send more infantry from hence.

‘ As two companies, and some cavalry, and two guns, will be at Nundydroog on the 25th, and you will probably find them sufficient for your purpose, I have not disturbed the post at Mudgherry; but I have written to Colonel Tolfrey to desire that he will order the officer there to be in readiness to move at a short notice, if you should find it necessary to call for him.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 24th January, 1800.

‘ I have received your letter of the 21st, with a duplicate of that of the 20th, and I am glad to find that the arrangements, which I communicated to you in my letter of yesterday, will meet your wishes.

‘ I have given Major Cuppage full power over the detachments, which are from Nundydroog, so that all will, I trust, go on well. I shall leave it to him either to detain or to send back the troop of the 4th regiment ordered from Bangalore. I have this day sent a supply of emergent ammunition.

‘ When you shall have settled matters with the Nizam's vakeel, there will be no longer any difficulties with the polygars on the frontier.

‘ Mr. Gordon will take the money at Nuggur, at the Seringapatam exchange.

'The cook room and zodoun at the Laal Baug are covered in, and the remainder of the building is ready for the roof, which will be on, I hope, by the end of the month. Things are going on well inside of the palace; but I do not like the painting of the outer room above stairs. It wants ornament sadly, and looks very bare and unfinished, in comparison with the other highly ornamented apartments. Nothing has yet been done to the roofs; but I had another conversation with Butcha Rao about it yesterday, and pressed him to commence upon it.

'We have had much trouble in procuring dooley boys to send away the 74th regiment. There are numbers of them in this country, as I am informed; but Purneah's people, instead of providing them, have sent to the 74th about half the number of coolies; and even of those that were sent from hence one half have deserted, and the remainder refuse to carry the doolies. The inconvenience of all this is, that the corps is delayed. If Purneah's people had said at first, either that they could not get people of the proper kind, or that they would not answer for them, I could have sent off some of our own dooley bearers who are here, and who were to have been employed in emptying our hospitals at Chittle-droog, Scra, and Seringapatam. These dooley bearers must now be sent to the 74th; and the hospitals must remain full. It is very desirable that Purneah's people should give us all the assistance which the country can afford, and that they should not deceive us respecting the nature of it. I am afraid that it will be imagined at head quarters, either that I have not used all the exertion in my power, or that I am not inclined to move the 74th.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL,

'Seringapatam, 25th January, 1800.

'I have received sad complaints from Colonel Campbell about his dooley bearers, but I have applied a remedy by sending those belonging to the army, which I had intended should be used to carry the convalescents and wounded from our different hospitals. It was unfortunate that they de-

ceived me by assurances, that the country bearers would not disappoint us ; as otherwise I should have had the 74th in march about ten days ago. I have long objected to sending a regiment to Chittledroog, because there is no accommodation for them, and the battalion has been found very unhealthy, and I am afraid that the delay of the march of the 74th will be attributed to my wish to detain them at Bangalore, instead of to its real cause. This makes me feel the disappointment more than I should otherwise.

‘ I enclose some papers which I have received from Captain Mackay, and I shall be obliged to you if you will request Purneah to send orders to the amildars to assist our bullocks as much as they can. Mackay has sent a man to look at a feeding ground, between this place and Periapatam, which, he understands, will answer for all the bullocks for some time. If it should be found to answer, he will remove them thither.

‘ I have lately written to Government about them, and have recommended that they may be kept as an establishment, and that the cows, by which the breed is to be kept up, may be left in the hands of the Rajah’s people.

‘ I believe I informed you, some time ago, that while I was absent with the army, Colonel Sherbrooke had altered the nerrick of artificers, and of all kinds of materials for building, at the instigation of Captain Norris. My attention has lately been drawn to this subject by intelligence which I have received, that the Government intend to put the troops in this country on half batta, and to give the officers the usual lodging money. As then they will have to build their own houses and quarters, the expense of building becomes an object ; and, in the examination of the subject, a system of engineering has come out well worthy of the example set at Madras.

‘ I have not yet been able to remedy the mischief done in my absence, as we have the advantage here of the assistance of some Madras dubashes and maistrics : but I have sent notice to these gentlemen that, if they do not settle the matter to my satisfaction, in the course of a few days, I shall send away all the Madras people who are now in this place.

‘ With this and a remedy for thieving, which, since the

camp thieves have joined the old gangs upon the island, has increased to an immoderate degree, I have been much taken up lately; but I hope that I have made some progress in applying the cure. I conclude that you will be here in the middle of next month.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ Butcha Rao has just been with me, and I find that some steps have been taken to collect materials for the roof of your house. I hope that considerable progress will be made in the repair of it before you return.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 26th January, 1800.

‘ I enclose a letter from Captain Mackay. I approve of his plan for collecting the bullocks in one place, and keeping them under his own eye.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 29th January, 1800.

‘ I have lately received a letter from Captain Macfarlane, in which he says that Dhoondiah and Kutraha Pundit had received directions from the Kolapoor Rajah to draw nearer to Kolapoor. This is attributed to his fears of the force coming from Poonah: Goklah had not moved from Savanore, but was preparing to do so.

‘ A letter has been received by Colonel Campbell, from head quarters, which proves that I was not mistaken in my conjectures respecting the opinion which would be entertained in consequence of the delay of the march of the 74th regiment.

‘ I am glad to find that we are able to keep down the polygars so easily. Residence with Purneah is an essential article in any agreement that may be made with them.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 31st January, 1800.

‘ I am obliged to you for the account of your proceedings with the Hyderabad vakcel contained in your letter of the 28th instant, which I received this morning; I see plainly that we must still keep ourselves strong on that frontier; and accordingly I have made my arrangements for strengthening Major Cuppage to such a degree as to enable him to detach to the posts which it appears to be necessary to occupy to keep a sufficient garrison in Nundydroog, and to have a force ready to send out in pursuit of the robbers who are likely to disturb the country. But to do this I am obliged to withdraw the troops from Severndroog, and to leave nothing there excepting a small guard. This I conceive to be of little importance at the present moment, and it will enable me to put under the command of Major Cuppage nearly fourteen companies of native infantry. These will be distributed as follows:—two in Gommair, one in Gorribundah, one in Busla Gunta, three with Captain Munro, seven in Nundydroog. This, with one troop of cavalry, and two field-pieces, besides what Captain Munro has, will be sufficient to answer all calls which may be made either for reinforcements or new detachments.

‘ It will be desirable to keep Captain Irton at Nundydroog, in order to send him out in command of any detachments which it may be necessary to make from that garrison.

‘ I hope that the 74th regiment has marched, and I am not very anxious about the immediate removal of the convalescents from the hospitals. I will not therefore take the workmen, who I see are so well employed at Mysore, and I will wait with patience until proper bearers can be supplied from the country.

‘ Mackay’s letter will have pointed out the place to which he wishes that the bullocks should be taken.

‘ I have completely succeeded against the artificers, and have made some progress against the thieves: at least, thieving is stopped here for the present. I have not received orders to carry into execution the plan for the court

of justice. I have altered the ornaments of your room, and wait till it is finished to see whether any more extensive ornaments will be necessary; I will then assemble there the Committee which you propose.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Harness.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 2nd February, 1800.

‘ I have received your letter of the 31st January, which has given great satisfaction. It rarely happens (particularly in this country) that it is in the power of an officer in command to please those who are under his orders; and when he is so fortunate, it is to be attributed as much to their good disposition, as to any efforts he may have made for that purpose. I regret exceedingly, on public as well as private grounds, that the 74th regiment is removed from Bangalore; but you must have been long enough in this country to perceive, that the public interest and convenience are not upon all occasions the cause of the public measures.

‘ I do not think that your corps will be drafted, at least not for some time; although I have seen the resolutions of thanks from the Court of Directors, and their songs of triumph, the burthen of all of which is the prospect of permanent peace in India, and of course the consequent diminution of the military establishments and expenses.

‘ I think you are right in going to England, even if the 74th should remain here.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Harness.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 3rd February, 1800.

‘ I have no concern whatever about the dooley boys, excepting that the want of them created a delay in the march of a corps, and I feared that that delay would be attributed to a desire to detain them in this country. Government have placed great confidence in me; and I should be sorry to

have any thing happen which might have the appearance of a job, as that would, in one moment, destroy the whole edifice.

‘ I am afraid that it will be impossible to have the 77th removed to Bangalore, although I think that Chittledroog is at present an improper place for them. My sentiments upon this subject, and the grounds upon which I have formed them, are known at Madras.

‘ Mackay will take the bullocks to the places which I mentioned to you ; and it is certainly very desirable that a person from Purneah should reside with him. I have strongly recommended that the bullocks should be retained as an establishment in the Company’s service, and have represented that to give them gram would be beneficial to them, and not add materially to the expense. It does add about twenty pagodas per month to the expense of each karkana (of which there are thirty five), supposing the gram to be at forty two seers for a rupee ; but it is now at fifty two in this neighbourhood, and at forty five in the bazaar at Seringapatam. Every diminution of the expense which can be made will be an additional motive for keeping the bullocks, and therefore I am desirous of not making a bargain to take gram at the price contracted for the cavalry, as the contract may be monopolized as it has been hitherto ; but I should prefer that Purneah should give it us as he has hitherto, at the rate of the country in which the bullocks may be. There is, however, no occasion for hurrying a decision upon this subject, and it will be as well to defer the further consideration of it until we meet.

‘ The same reason which induces me to wish to keep down the expense of gram for the bullocks, induces me to try to get the straw for them for nothing. It appears that in the distant countries there is no demand and no sale for it, and it therefore cannot be stated to be a grievance upon the people to take from them that which they cannot use, cannot dispose of, and must burn. It is but for a short time in the year, as I understand, that the bullocks want straw, and at that time I should propose that they should be sent to a particular place at a distance from any great town, cantonment, or garrison, where a certain proportion of the whole

quantity of the straw produced might be collected for them in each village. This they might get for nothing.

‘Mackay tells me that Purneah has made an arrangement already similar to the above for the bullocks in the neighbourhood of the grazing ground in which they are now. He has in his hands the order for what is called the sircar’s share of the straw, which in general rots. I approve highly of any arrangement which can be made which will give the people a fair price for their straw; and it is to be observed that the lower it is bought the better it is for them, provided it is sufficient to pay for the trouble of taking care of it, and to compensate them for it. As the straw is to be paid for, I agree with you that the whole of it must be forthcoming when wanted. The straw for the bullocks stands upon a different footing; and of this it is but fair that the ryots should have as much as they can use. Indeed, it is taken from them for nothing, only on the principle that they cannot make use of it.

‘I wish you joy of the conclusion of your negotiations with the Nizam’s vakeel.

‘I shall send on Wednesday twenty elephants and one hundred draught bullocks for Lady Clive’s use. She leaves Madras in the first week in March, and I propose to go to the frontier to meet her. She will do well, in my opinion, to stop at Bangalore till the month of June, as April and May are very hot here. I have desired Grant to ask her to Dowlut Baug, the zenana of which, when a little improved, will accommodate her and her family admirably. Neither of the palaces would answer for a woman at all, as they are so much exposed.

‘I have already improved your room much, and I wait to see the effect of what has been done, when I propose to go there with Mr. Gordon; and if it wants further ornament it shall have it.

‘I enclose a letter from Macfarlane. A fellow came here this day and informed me that he had come from the Marhatta country as far as Toomkoor, with a gang employed by Dhoondiah to carry me off when I should go out hunting. He says that Dhoondiah proposes to collect a large gang in this neighbourhood, and to join them himself. In order to

prove to him how little I fear his gang, I go out hunting to-morrow; but I have desired my friend to join his gang again, and I have promised him a reward if he will enable me to lay hands upon them in this neighbourhood.

‘ I have a letter from Stevenson, who having employed some of Oliver’s hircarrahs, has got accounts that Scindiah had joined the Kolapoor man; that Nana had sent 50,000 horse from Poonah to join Appah Sahib; that Aristo Jah was discharging all the Nizam’s horse, and sending them to Dhoondiah; that he was in secret communication with Scindiah, and that Scindiah had sent 10,000 *northern beggars* to Beder to escort him from thence into the Marhatta country; that he had shut up the gates of Hyderabad, &c. &c. all about a cock and a bull !

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

17. 025

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 4th February, 1800.

‘ My friend was with Barclay again this morning, and repeated his story and assurances of its truth. He added, what he only hinted at yesterday, that the gang have some designs upon Mysore; and upon the whole it appears more like a plundering party than any thing else. As nothing could be more unpleasant than any accident to the family at Mysore, I have apprized the officer in command there of the intelligence which I have received, and have put him on his guard; but I have desired him to be cautious to do nothing which can in the smallest degree alarm the family. I was out hunting this morning, and West * thinks that he saw some people, about twenty, on horseback. I acknowledge that I saw nothing of them. But if they were there, and my friend keeps true to us, I shall have them this night.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

* Captain West, 33rd regiment, aide de camp to Colonel Wellesley.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Seringapatam, 5th February, 1800.

‘ I have received your letter of the 2nd instant. Since I wrote to you yesterday I have heard from Captain Stewart, who informs me that there had been for some days a bazaar report at Mysore that there was a vagabond party of cavalry belonging to Dhoondiah in the country; but he had given no credit, nor paid any attention to it. He promises to take all the precautions which I pointed out to him.

‘ My opinion is this; the man who gave me the information very probably heard the bazaar report, and thought that by adding my name, and informing me that my safety was in question, he should get a reward. But I conceive that the bazaar report does not add to, indeed I rather think it takes from the degree of credit which might be given to the story. If it be true that there has been this bazaar report for several days, it cannot be true that this man came with the party from Savanore, that he left them at Toomkoor, and that he arrived here only two days ago. Upon the whole, therefore, I think that the business has originated in a bazaar report, for which it is probable there is no foundation, as it does not appear that the country in this neighbourhood has been at all disturbed, which it would have been if such a banditti had come into it, or that the Rajah's people have received any information of their arrival, which it is certain would have been given to them.

‘ However, the man who gave the information is now out, and I am prepared for any that he may bring.

‘ I have still some trouble with brickmakers; and in order to bring matters to rights I am afraid that I must give a monopoly; I have threatened it this day, from which I hope the best consequences. They have come down from ten rupees a thousand to six; I want to bring them to five, which will answer.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 8th February, 1800.

‘ My friend came in this morning and gave me information that a party of the people, about whom he had spoken to me before, was at Coorghelly, about three coss beyond Nunjuncode, and other parties in different villages and in the jungles between the two. That four sirdars (two of whose names are Inaun Khan and Kawder Saheb, the latter of whom had been a russildar, under the orders of Khan Jehan Khan) were with their followers, their baggage, and, he believes, the treasure, at Nunjuncode, in a large house in the fort, inhabited by a musselmann, whose brother is one of the party. That this musselmann owner of the house is the man who formerly, when Dhoondiah was a prisoner, had charge of him, and paid him his allowance. That besides these parties there is one, at a village about a coss from Mysore, called Ennechully, of five Marhattas: and there are four musselmann upon the island of Seringapatam, near the Chendgall ford. It is supposed that there are other parties in different villages, as by this man’s story it appears that there is a tappall to these sirdars from hence.

‘ I have made the following arrangements, and if there is any truth in the story, I hope to have the sirdars in the morning. Captain Robertson rides over to Mysore this evening; and about twelve this night will start from thence with fifty men; and in order that he may be able to surround the house completely, he will take with him from Mysore some officers, who went there this morning on a party of pleasure. He takes with him the man who has given the information, and he will reach Nunjuncode before day, and will seize the sirdars. He then sends back a party to Ennechully, who it is hoped will catch the Marhattas; but as they have no regular place of abode, and nobody knows them, excepting the man who has given the information, and who is to return with this party, I do not expect that they will be taken. There is a thief here who knows the musselmann on the island, and is acquainted with their place of abode: I shall send a party towards morning to seize them.

‘ I think it probable that if we get the sirdars, the people

at Coorghelly and in the jungles will disperse and be off; at all events we could not expect to catch them, and therefore I do not send after them.

'My plan is to give orders that all the principal men may be kept separate; I shall have them examined separately, and send to Government copies of their examinations, and the story of the man who first gave the information. The proper thing to do with them would be to punish them; but it is to be observed that we have no evidence of their evil intentions, excepting the story of one man, and that as yet they have not done any thing to disturb the peace of the country. It may be thought better to wait till they do something, which can give ground for punishing them on the spot; but to this I answer that it is difficult to obtain a knowledge of their motions, and that it is probable they could find out that I had heard of them, and would quit the country; and that they would certainly do so or would conceal themselves, so as not to be found out if they should ever commit an outrage which would deserve punishment. Besides, if there is any truth in the story, I rely a good deal upon the contradictory accounts of themselves, which they will give when examined separately, to elucidate and confirm it; and it is not improbable but that the hopes of pardon may get for us another evidence.'

'Upon the whole I have thought it best to endeavor to seize them immediately.'

'The man is still positive and consistent, which is very extraordinary.'

'Believe me, &c.'

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.'

'I relieve the party at Mysore early in the morning, so that we shall have in that quarter to-morrow a respectable force.'

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL,

'Seringapatam, 9th February, 1800.'

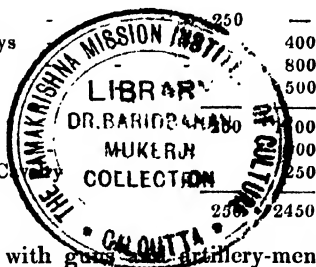
'We were successful last night in taking the people on the island, and those at Nunjuncode; and, by Captain Robertson's account, I hope that he will have taken the Marhattas this morning. I expect the sirdars in to-mor-

and, after I shall have had them examined, I shall be to form a more decided opinion respecting the business. I have formed none from the examination of the persons taken upon the island last night.

‘ I am much at a loss to know how to form the detachment for Wynaad. We can spare nothing from Seringapatam, excepting the two flank companies of each of the European, and two of each of the native corps. I have ordered a battalion, the 2nd of the 3rd from Chittledroog, the 1st of the 12th from Paughur, leaving two companies to take care of that post and its dependencies, and five troops of the 2nd regiment of cavalry from Sera. We have here about 500 pioneers, and they shall accompany the detachment. I reckon that the whole will be ready to start from Seringapatam in the second week in March. I doubt whether that will be sufficiently early to enable us to conclude matters before the setting in of the monsoon. But it will be impossible to get the battalion from Chittledroog sooner than the end of the first week in that month, and even Tolfrey’s battalion will not be here above one or two days before it. It is very desirable that Purneah should write to the amildars at Chittledroog, and at Paughur, to desire that they will assist in procuring bullocks for the carriage of the tents of the two corps.

‘ I reckon the detachment will be strong as follows :—

4 Companies of Europeans	250	—
4 Flank Companies of Sepoys		400
2nd of the 3rd		800
1st of the 12th		500
Pioneers		00
5 Troops 2nd Regiment of Cavalry		00
		250
		2450



‘ This will be sufficient, with guns and artillery-men, to eat the Pyche Rajah !

‘ I intend to proceed with the detachment myself. In the meantime every thing shall be prepared here for the arrival of the troops.

‘ I shall answer your official letter to-morrow. Since writing the above, I have made arrangements for the car-

riage of the tents of the corps, and I hope that they will all be here in the first week in March. Tolfrey's, I am afraid, will be last.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Seringapatam, 11th February, 1800.

‘I had not time to write to you yesterday, after the examination of the prisoners. Of course they all denied the truth of the charge which had been brought against them, and all declared that they have resided in the villages, in which they were arrested, since the fall of Seringapatam. There was much inconsistency in the stories of some of them, which may be attributed as much to the nature of a native of this country, as to the want of truth in the story. The amildar of Nunjuncode, and two or three of the principal people from thence, and from Ennechully, where the Marhattas were taken, have been sent for. They will throw much light upon the whole business, and, in the meantime, all the prisoners are kept separately. The informer persists in his story, has identified the persons of most of the people arrested, and has repeated the charge before them.

‘A circumstance has occurred which shows how cautious we should be in receiving the evidence of a native. There is a fakir upon the island, who of course knows that he exists under the Company's protection. He came forward and declared most positively, that two of the people, charged as being of the party, had been at his tuckiah ever since the fall of the place. Of course this declaration occasioned much doubt of the truth of any part of the information; but yesterday he sent word that he should come forward and tell the truth if I desired it. Barclay will see him this day.

‘I acknowledge that I have many doubts of the truth of every part of the information; but I am the only person here who has any.

‘I shall be prepared to march with the detachment at the time I stated to you in my public letter. I think that it would be very desirable to have one of the surveyors with the detachment, and I wish much that you would write to

Mackenzie upon the subject. I should write to him, only that I am afraid he would think it an interference, on my part, in business in which I had no concern. Mr. Frazer is here, but he is sick, and going on leave to the Carnatic. If we have any body, therefore, it must be Mr. Warren, and I do not know where he can be employed to greater advantage than in the Wynaad country. I have written to Colebrooke to desire him to send me some of his native guides who are more useful than any people I have yet seen, in exploring roads for our troops. They know to a nicety where we can go.

'They are going on well with your house. Doctors disagree about your principal room; I therefore think it better that just so much should be done to it as can be finished before you return; and if you should go away again for a month, it will be easy to add any ornament which you may think necessary. I think it will want but little; but that will depend much upon the mode in which you propose to close it in. For this I think that you will approve of the mode in which I am closing my rooms.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to the Secretary of Government, Fort St. George.

'SIR,

'Seringapatam, 15th February, 1800.

'I enclose the copy of a letter from Lieut. Colonel Montresor. In consequence of your letter of the 9th January, I proposed that the 77th should not be taken in the establishment of the government of Fort St. George until they were arrived in their quarters, and should have had time to discharge their Bombay establishment. The orders from the Military Paymaster General were different, and the Paymaster was directed to take them on this establishment, and to pay them from the day on which they entered the Mysore country. It will therefore be necessary that he should be further authorized to pay their Bombay field establishment.

'I have directed Mr. Gordon to prepare as follows for the detachment ordered for the field. He is to supply, for 300 Europeans, three months' arrack; and for 2500 natives, one month's grain, at half allowance. I have thought it proper

the country. It will be well if Purneah orders all kind of bazaar articles to be got together.

‘ I am glad to hear that we shall see you so soon. I have not yet released all the prisoners; and unless something further appears in their favor, I intend to detain them for another day or two. Barclay has been most laborious in his investigation of this business, and has brought it to light in a masterly manner. He has examined the dates and marches of the party as stated by the informant, and what is very extraordinary the account comes out right. The man first told his story, the number of marches he made, where he halted, &c. &c. Barclay then questioned him as to the time, and made him tell at what places he had seen each new moon; and his answers have corresponded exactly with his marches and halts and his arrival here. This is a strong mark of truth, particularly in a native, who never knows any thing of time. He is now gone to bring more witnesses, and I hope that you will be here before I release the prisoners. I acknowledge that the proof of the alibi has much weight with me, and that I detain the people now only out of respect for the opinions of those who have made the investigation, and who do not agree with me.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ I enclose advertisements about gram from the Military Board.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Colonel Sartorius.

‘ SIR,

‘ Seringapatam, 26th February, 1800.

‘ I have the honor to enclose a letter from the Secretary of the Government of Fort St. George.

‘ I have received your letter of the 18th instant, and
• Lieut. Colonel Close has communicated to me that which you wrote to him on the 17th. By both it would appear that the Pyche Rajah was in actual possession of the Cotiote district, whereas I had always imagined that you had posts in it which, not being sufficiently strong to support the Company’s authority, the Pyche Rajah had an influence in the country very prejudicial to the British interests. If I should

be founded in my conjectures that you have a post in Cotiote, I shall be glad if you will let me know it; and if you will be so kind as to make arrangements for posting the detachments from Cannanore in conformity with the following plan, giving me information of the place where it is posted, and of the nature of the communication between that place and the Wynaad country.

‘The first object in forming both detachments is to establish the Company’s authority in Wynaad, which is now held by the Pyche Rajah. It appears to be your opinion that as soon as he is pressed by the detachment from Seringapatam, he will move into Cotiote, where his influence is still extensive, and where his former successes would give him reason to hope for success in future. But if it be true that you have a post in Cotiote, and that the Pyche Rajah, instead of being in possession of that district, only exercises an influence there, I should hope that the detachment of the Bombay army would be strong enough to support itself against him until I could reach him from Wynaad; and that you would find no inconvenience, and that there would be no risk in placing your detachment, so that it would intercept him on the route which you may imagine he follows to his proposed retreat at Cotiote.

‘If, then, my conjecture is well founded, I beg that you will do me the favor to order the detachment to move forward to Cotiote, that you will place it so that it may either stop the Rajah, or may induce him to take a longer and more difficult route to his place of retreat. If, however, the Rajah should remain in the Wynaad country contrary to your expectation and to mine, it will be necessary that the detachment from Cannanore should be prepared to move into that district likewise.

‘If you should have no posts in Cotiote, the plan must be different, although the object will be the same, and must depend upon the strength of your detachment compared with that which the Pyche Rajah can produce in Cotiote, upon the nature and state of the roads, and of the country through which it must pass in order to reach the border of Wynaad.

‘If the detachment should run any risk in entering the Cotiote country, it will be best that it should enter Wynaad

by the Tambercherry ghaut ; as it is very clear that if the Pyche Rajah is so strong in Cotiote that the Bombay detachment cannot enter it with safety, the Seringapatam detachment will not be able to drive him out of both Wynaad and Cotiote in this season, and that the absence of the Bombay detachment may risk success even in the former. I therefore propose that the Bombay detachment should enter Wynaad by the Tambercherry ghaut, if, as you say, the Rajah is in possession of, and strong in Cotiote, instead of remaining upon the borders and straitening him in the latter. All this, however, depends upon a comparison of your strength and his : you will perceive that my plan is, that your detachment should move through Cotiote towards, or, eventually, into Wynaad, if possible ; but if that should not be possible, as the possession of Wynaad is, in the first instance, the object, it should move into it by the Tambercherry ghaut.

‘ As the season is advancing, I cannot sufficiently express the anxiety, which I am convinced you feel in common with me, that your detachment should move as soon as possible. The Right Honorable the Governor General having resolved to get possession of Wynaad, and, with this view, having ordered detachments to be prepared in Malabar and Mysore, it is not economy to spare money in fitting them out.

‘ Of this you will be convinced, and I beg therefore that you will spare no expense to equip the troops with their provisions, stores, carriage, &c. I shall be obliged to you if you will let me know when your detachment will be ready to move ; the route which, according to either of the foregoing plans, it will pursue ; and such other information as it may be in your power to favor me with. My detachment is already collected and prepared to move. I have posted camel hircarrahs upon the road towards Cannanore as far as they can go, and I shall be obliged to you if you will give directions that your letters may be given to them.

‘ I have the honor to be, &c.

‘ Colonel Sartorius.’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘In order to put in execution the orders of Government to get possession of Wynaad, these methods have been proposed. It was first proposed that the detachments of the Bombay army should penetrate through Cotiote, while that from Mysore should enter from the eastward; but it appears that the influence and strength of the Pyche Rajah in Cotiote is much greater than that of the Company, and that a detachment, such as that proposed to be assembled by Colonel Sartorius, cannot pass through without the risk of being destroyed. As under the circumstances of the present moment it is impossible to collect a larger detachment and equip it in time, I am obliged to relinquish that plan, by which alone the Pyche Rajah can be completely subdued.

‘Colonel Sartorius then proposes that he should collect his detachment at Cotapuramba, on the western borders of Cotiote, that it should remain there until the detachment of this army shall have penetrated Wynaad, and then that a combined attack of the two detachments shall be made on the Cotiote district.

‘I am not acquainted with the nature of the Wynaad country, and I am not certain that the combined operations of the two detachments as ordered by the Government will not be necessary to get possession of, and establish the Company’s authority in, that district. The season is so far advanced as to render it very probable that even that object can scarcely be effected before the rains set in, and it is certain that both objects cannot. Colonel Sartorius proposes that in case it should be found that the detachment of this army cannot alone get possession of Wynaad, he should embark his troops, re-land them at Calicut, and move into Wynaad by the Tambercherry ghaut; but I must observe, that the length of time which would elapse between the period at which the want of his assistance might be felt, that at which he would receive information of this want, and that at which he would be at the proper place to afford his assistance, would be so great, as in all probability to render it useless.

‘Upon the whole, then, considering the weakness of the Bombay detachment compared with the strength of the Pyche Rajah in Cotiote, I have determined not to attempt to

move it through that district; and considering the lateness of the season, and the orders of Government, I propose to desire Colonel Sartorius to collect his detachment at Calicut, and to enter Wynaad by the Tambercherry ghaut, while I shall enter it from this side.

‘By Colonel Sartorius’s letters, it appears that he will be prepared to leave Calicut towards the end of this month, or in the beginning of the next, and I propose to march from hence about the 20th; my detachment having been collected and prepared to move since the 26th of last month.

‘The information regarding the weather which I have received from many quarters, but which, by Colonel Sartorius’s letters, does not appear to be well founded, is, that it begins to rain in Wynaad in the middle of this month, that the showers increase, and become more frequent gradually, till the middle of April, when the rains become violent, and the rivers and nullahs fill.

‘If this information be well founded (and the early period at which, in comparison with the Cauvery, is a proof that the rains are early in Wynaad), there will be a further question whether the expedition ought to be undertaken at all, if the equipment of the Bombay troops is to be delayed beyond the end of this month.

‘Upon this subject it will be necessary to receive the orders of Government, on the advantages to be derived from prosecuting the expedition in this season; and that we shall obtain a knowledge of the country; and that we shall be enabled to establish at Wynaad a post, from whence we can complete the succession of the Pyche Rajah early in the next season.

‘The Company’s affairs cannot well be worse than they are in Cotiote, and therefore no evil is to be apprehended from the Rajah seating himself there during the rains.

‘I have the honor to be, &c.

*The Secretary of Government,
Fort St. George.*

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Seringapatam, 9th March, 1800.

‘I have made arrangements for sending to Paughur two companies of the 1st of the 8th, who, I hope, will keep matters quiet.

‘I do not know on what day the Bombay troops will be collected at Calicut, but I rather believe at about this time, and they will be prepared to march on the 7th or 8th of April. I propose that my troops should cross the rivers tomorrow, and march to the Dalway Tank on the next day, that is to say, if I am well enough, as I had an attack of fever yesterday which kept me in bed all day.

‘We have been perfectly quiet here since I wrote to you. The court martial sentenced the four men to be hanged, but as I have not the power of putting the sentence in execution, excepting in a case of emergency, which, when they had finished their proceedings, did not exist, and as the men tried were not at the head of the riot, I have had them well flogged, and sent about their business.

‘Besides, I do not conceive that the connexion between the four men tried and the gang at Caryghaut appears so clear upon the face of the proceedings as it was in fact, or as I expected it would. It is very certain that the gooroo was at the head of the business.

‘Return the court martial, and

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Seringapatam, 11th March, 1800.

‘I enclose a memorandum relating to gold mohurs and soolacky rupees, which I have received from Mr. Gordon. He proposes to coin 100 of each, in order to prove the truth of the paper.

• ‘Upon considering Sartorius’s letter to Lord Clive, and the slight dependence to be placed on 1500 coolies pressed and detained by a guard, I have determined to increase our supplies of provisions to such extent as may be practicable between this and the time of our departure.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to the Secretary of Government, Fort St. George.

‘SIR,

‘Seringapatam, 12th March, 1800.

‘Colonel Sartorius has transmitted me a copy of his letter of the 8th instant to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council. As from that, it appears that he is obliged to depend for supplies for his detachment on 1500 coolies, “passed and detained under a guard,” I have thought it proper to order that the quantity of rice and arrack to accompany this detachment may be increased to such extent as may be found practicable, between this and the day on which I shall march. This will add to my encumbrances, and I have therefore ordered the flank companies of the 77th regiment from Chittledroog to join me.

‘Colonel Sartorius has proposed to draw from Goa four companies of sepoys, but I have desired him not to increase his numbers, unless he is certain of being able to feed his troops.

‘I enclose the copy of a letter from Capt. ———, who commands the pioneers on the Bombay establishment, and who has been much employed in Cotiote. It does not appear possible to bring a detachment through that district till we are in possession of Wynaad.

‘I have the honor to be, &c.

‘The Secretary of Government,
Fort St. George.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Seringapatam, 14th March, 1800.

‘Abdoo Ghoffar’s son called upon me this morning. I had before examined my papers and made inquiries respecting him, and I find that he is not included in the list of persons of the Binky Nabob’s family, for whose use the pension of 400 star pagodas per annum is granted. It will therefore be proper that some provision should be made for him; and, as the Binky Nabob’s widow and his family are on the Family Fund, it will be right that this branch of the same family should be upon it likewise. Will you write to Government upon the subject?

‘I have been a little out of order these two last days with a cold, but I am getting better.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ Seringapatam, 16th March, 1800.

‘ I have had a conversation with Mr. Gordon about money matters, and it appears that we begin to want a little, and I believe that we shall be obliged to call for some from the Presidency. I intend to ask Munro to pay the Bombay corps at Nuggur for this month, which will relieve us a little. We shall then want about 20,000 pagodas at Chittledroog, as much at Bangalore, and about 30,000 here. If the coinage succeeds, we shall have money enough for two months; but in the meantime, until all the bad, or rather useless, money is recoined, we are in distress.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

• Will you be so kind as to return Sydenham's letter?

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

' Seringapatam, 17th March, 1800..

‘ Having received the answer from the amildar of Sera regarding the carts of the persons named in the agreement of the Belgwars and Sonars, I yesterday gave the parties counterparts of their paper signed by myself; at the same time I called for the two men, who I before told you had refused to come into the agreement, informed them of the

answer received from Sera, and desired that they would give security for their behavior, and that they would no longer disturb the peace of the place. This they positively refused. Last night and early this morning parties of Pariah people and cook boys went about the streets armed with clubs, and threatened the bazaar people in case they should open their shops; of these four were caught in the fort in the fact. This morning a large body assembled at the Caryghaut, and another at the Chendgall Ford, who plundered the country people coming with their goods, broke the chatties of those bringing milk, and stopped all communication with the country by the lower fords. The bazaars in the Fort and Ganjam were shut. Under these circumstances it became necessary to take some serious and decided steps towards restoring peace and confidence. I ordered a small party of Europeans out from the garrison to cross at the Chendgall Ford, a small party of sepoys from camp to the Caryghaut hill, as the largest mob had put themselves at the choultries at the bottom of it, and a party of cavalry into the Lockary to assist in case they should make off *unhurt* before the infantry should reach them. Notwithstanding repeated messages, and that the cavalry was within 100 yards of them for near an hour, they remained till the infantry got on both sides of them within pistol shot. The infantry fired; two of them and the two head men whom I had sent out were killed, and two wounded. The whole dispersed, and the communication is going on, and all is as quiet as if nothing had happened.

‘A native general court martial is now sitting to try the fellows who were taken in the fort, and I intend to hang two of them if they should be sentenced, as I imagine they will. The people concerned were mostly gentlemen’s servants, and horsekeepers, and soldiers’ cooks; I dare say set on by the higher classes in the service of the officers. It is fortunate that the attempt has been made whilst I have been here, and I dare say it will not be renewed during my absence, or ever again.

‘Believe me, &c.

Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

H

prices charged by the gram agents of the cavalry; and Captain Mackay says that they are much higher than the prices on the spot where the gram was received. The Company's bullocks have been at Seringapatam, at Bangalore, Nundydroog, Chittledroog, &c. &c., and Captain Mackay has vouchers from the officers in charge of them at those different places, all of which give the gram cheaper than it is given by Purneah; all these with the prices charged by the gram agents will be before General Sydenham when he will have Captain Mackay's accounts under his examination; and he will require some kind of certificate from Purneah, that the price charged was paid to him by Captain Mackay. If Purneah has been defrauded by those whom he employed to furnish the gram for the bullocks, and the prices cannot be lowered, the best method of settling the account will be to strike an average upon the whole quantity received since he first began to deliver it to our bullocks in the month of September, and to let it stand as an agreement made between you and me, or with Purneah, for the convenience of both parties. It was impossible last night to strike a correct average, but, from a rough calculation, it appears that it will run about thirty seven or thirty eight seers for a rupee. If you should see no objection to this, the only matter remaining to be settled on this first is the number of seers delivered, upon which I imagine there is no difference.

In September and October the cavalry were in Soonda, and got no gram; but since that period, in general the price has been about forty seers for a rupee; and certainly, the cavalry gram is not the cheapest.

The only point remaining to be settled is the manner of procuring gram for the bullocks in future. Mackay is very desirous still to receive it from Purneah; and if a stated price were once fixed, his giving it might be free from the detail and trouble of which you complain. But if you should be of opinion that it will be attended with inconvenience, Captain Mackay does not think that he will find any difficulty in procuring gram, provided the sircar will relax the regulations which restrict the sale of it to such a degree as almost to amount to a prohibition. I conclude that these restrictions are occasioned by the necessity of furnishing a

quantity of gram for the Company's bullocks, and therefore, when that necessity no longer exists, there will be no objection to allowing the sale of gram to be as general and as easy as is the sale of any other commodity.

' At all events, it will be convenient that Purneah should continue to deliver the gram till the end of the month, and before then you will have had time to settle both as to the mode of payment for that already received, and as to the mode of procuring gram for the bullocks in future. Let me know when you shall have decided upon these subjects.

' I have considered the proposition to deliver over entirely to the Rajah the stud of cows, and all the calves, and I have talked it over with Mackay. He seems to be of opinion, that if the bullocks are not occasionally recruited by drafts of fresh calves, the establishment will very soon fail entirely. I have no doubt but that for *purchase* it will at all times be possible to procure bullocks fit for the draught, and probably equal to those already in the Company's service. But I know the nature of those to whom all propositions for expense to be incurred upon this subject must be submitted, and I should as soon expect that they would consent to a disbursement of a lac of pagodas as to one of 500 or 1000 pagodas a year for a convenient arrangement of this matter for the Rajah's Government. I therefore foresee that the establishment of bullocks will fall to the ground, or the Company must keep the stud which is to support it, or both establishment and stud must be given over to the Rajah's Government. As a Company's servant, I certainly should prefer to have an establishment and stud in the hands of the Company.

' A more convenient arrangement for the Company would be that the stud should be in the hands of the Rajah, and that the Company should receive supplies from it; but it may be said, why is the Rajah to be fettered with a Company's concern? and we must therefore look to other means of taking care of it. We are in possession of the country from whence it is said the bullocks were originally brought, and the gentlemen in charge may not find it impossible to arrange matters so as to give an annual supply of calves without incurring *expense*, which appears to be the object. Under this arrangement, the cows will be given over to

them: but I do not conceive that this or any other plan will ever answer so well for us as to leave the stud in the hands of the Rajah, and to receive from it certain supplies.

'I have been detained this day for tents, but I shall set out early in the morning.'

'Believe me, &c.'

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.'

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL,' *'Serlingapatam, 26th March, 1800.*

'Just before I received your enclosure I had received Mr. Smee's dispatch of the 22nd. I now send you that of the 21st, being Mr. Smee's letter to me, and copies of a letter from the Pyche Rajah.

'I likewise send a letter about the bullocks which was going by tappall.

'Believe me, &c.'

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.'

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL,' *'Serlingapatam, 26th March, 1800.*

'The particular restriction upon the sale of gram which Mackay mentioned, is an order from Purneah to sell no gram (or at least a very small quantity) to any person excepting to the sircar. As this order has not been given in the neighbourhood of the cavalry stations, I conclude that it has been in the neighbourhood of the places where the bullocks are, or have been grazing, merely because he had engaged to furnish these with gram, and that he would be more certain of performing his engagement in consequence of the restriction. But it is clear that there will be no occasion for the restriction, when he will have nothing to do with the supply of the gram, and equally so that Mackay will not be able to get any unless it is taken off.

'Captain Mackay is aware of the road duties, and makes no objection to them.

'As soon as you have settled the average price with Purneah, let me know it, and I will write to Mackay to settle the account, and there will be no difficulty hereafter.

'I assure you that I find no fault with Purneah's prices

for gram ; but as they differ from those of the country which have already gone before the person who is to pass the accounts, it is necessary that there should be some certificate of the cause of the difference, or that the whole should be put together, and an average struck, and that the price should stand upon some original agreement made for the convenience of both parties.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Veerajundrapett, 30th March, 1800.

‘ I arrived here this morning, in four marches, from Scringapatam, but they were very long. It is forty miles to Periapatam, and twenty five from thence. The Rajah came over from Nauknaar this morning, and I have been to see him. He received me well, but spoke but little. He complains of sickness, and has really got a fever, and Mr. Trevor, surgeon of the 33rd regiment, is going to stay with him for a day or two.

‘ He received your letter immediately previous to my seeing him ; and as his Persian moonshee was not here, Ogg read and interpreted it. I rather think that as he is really sick, you will do well to defer your journey and meeting with him for a few days. I shall desire Mr. Trevor to let you know when he recovers.

‘ I have received from Colonel Sartorius the copy of a letter written to him by the Commissioners in Malabar, in which they desire that at least the native part of the troops collected for the expedition into Wynaad may be suffered to remain in Malabar, until they shall have had time to consider of the propriety of making a requisition to employ them to the southward. At present I see no objection to suffering these troops to remain in Malabar ; but there may be very strong objections to their being employed upon any wild-goose expedition that the Commissioners may point out. When the requisition comes I shall be a better judge of the propriety of complying with it.

The country, from Sedaseer hither, is an almost continued jungle : I had scarcely room to encamp at Seodapoór.

In the neighbourhood of this place there is some cultivation; but this magnificent capital is about of the same extent, and has a similar appearance to a country town in Ireland.

‘ I propose to get down the ghaut to-morrow, and to be at Cannanore on the 2nd of April.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ *Stony River, 31st March, 1800.*

‘ After I had written to you yesterday, the Rajah sent to me to say that he would pay me a visit. He began by saying that he had intended to meet me at his frontier, but that I had not given him notice of the day on which I intended to leave Seringapatam; and that he had been so ill on the day when he heard that I was arrived at Periapatam, that he had not been able to quit his house. He then said that as I was going to Cannanore I should see the Bombay gentlemen, and should have an opportunity of conversing with them respecting him, and they would tell me whether he was such a man as he had been represented to be. I told him that I knew no person who had less reason to complain of misrepresentation; that in India, in England, and every where, his character was perfectly known and established, and that he did not do justice either to himself or to us, in imagining otherwise. He then, from beginning to end, related the history of his connexion with Hyder, and with Tippoo, and with us; and he repeatedly said that the brahmins were his enemies. He declared that from the commencement of his connexion with the British Government (which was founded on their mutual enmity to Tippoo) to this day, he had never done any thing relative thereto without an order from them, or from their agents, which he could produce, and offered to do so for my satisfaction. I then took an opportunity of letting him see that I had nothing to do with political matters; that he would soon see you, that you had been many years in this country, had a perfect knowledge of its affairs, &c. &c., and that you were not ignorant of the nature of his connexion with the Company; and I recommended to

him to listen to what you should say to him as to the advice of his best friend. He said that if he was sufficiently recovered he would go with me to Seringapatam when I should return thither, of which he said he had informed you. After having stayed about three hours he went away.

‘ It appeared to me that pains had been taken to induce him to believe that we (Madras people) were prejudiced against him, and that we listened to brahmins, against whom he appears to have an inveterate hatred, and who, he believes, have an equal one towards him. He repeatedly said that we could not be aware of the services which he had had it in his power to render to the Company, that we were strangers to him and his actions, and that it was natural that we should listen to those with whom we had been acquainted, and who he knew were his enemies. I am of opinion, however, that a little better acquaintance, more intercourse, and a little gentle treatment, will remove all these impressions.

‘ He speaks Moorish fluently; but Ogg says, with an idiom that belongs, he supposes, to his own language: he has more simplicity, and, apparently, more sincerity in his manners, as well as in what he says, than any native I have ever seen.

‘ It struck me as remarkable in his conversation, that he should have urged repeatedly that he had orders for every thing he had ever done either from the Company’s Government or their agents; particularly when I recollected that ——— had declined to ask him to give up the families which he had seized in Mysore, because they had been seized by his desire.

‘ The Rajah was better this morning, and went to Nauhnam when I came here. He had still, however, some fever, and the doctor accompanies him.

‘ I omitted to mention to you, in my letter of yesterday, that the amildar at Periapatam proposed to me that he should seize some bullocks which had come in there with gram from the Koorg country; as (he said) some of the inhabitants knew them to have belonged to themselves, and to have been taken off by the Rajah of Koorg, I recommended him to take the orders of his sircar before he did such a thing.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

MY DEAR COLONEL,

Cannanore, 3rd April, 1800.

I arrived here this morning, having been on the road one day longer than I expected. I found the weather exceedingly hot, and a want of water upon the road to refresh the followers and cattle obliged me to make two marches, where, under other circumstances, I should have made only one. We have, however, had rain nearly every night since I left Seringapatam.

I met here Mr. Smee and Captain Moncrieffe. The former has induced some of the nairs, under his influence, Kydree Amboo at their head, to commence to open a road from Cotaparamba by Mananderry to Tutucullum and Canote, and another by Pyche to Montana; the latter will not be difficult, as Tippoo had made one on the same line formerly. It is intended, if possible, before the rains, to establish a post at Canote, and another at Montana, to connect them by a road directly across from one to the other, and by another road between them by Perrywell, which last requires only to be opened. Mr. Smee has no doubt but that the nairs will effect these objects; and in order to facilitate them, I have sent in the pioneers and 1200 of the coolies, which had been hired for the expedition. If the Pyche Rajah is disposed to make an opposition to this measure (which Smee and Moncrieffe think he will not), it must then be given over; as all parties agree that the force in this country is not sufficient to carry it through. If it should be necessary to give over the plan, Smee does not apprehend that the Company's influence will be diminished in consequence of the failure, and as every yard of road which is made is so much gained towards effecting the great object, I have, upon the whole, thought it a measure which ought to be attempted. Excepting thirty men employed in guarding Kydree Amboo's house, not a sepoy will be engaged in the operation; so that however anxiously I may look forward for its success, I do not conceive that the honour of the Company's arms will be engaged in it. As soon as the roads will have been completed; or if it should be necessary to discontinue them, or, at all events, at the commencement of the monsoon, the coolies will be employed in carrying provisions to Cotaparamba, where I understand there are sheds and buildings sufficient to contain provisions for 3000 men for

two months. If it should be possible to make posts at Montana and Canote, they must, in the first instance, be held by the friendly nairs till we can move forward our provisions, first for a garrison, next for the number of men, and for the time above stated.

‘ It will be a curious circumstance, if without troops we should be able to effect objects which it was imagined the largest detachment which could conveniently be brought together could not undertake; but it is to be observed that they will be effected by the nairs themselves, with the assistance of our people, and not by our force

‘ I have heard from Colonel Mignan that he had received a report from the officer commanding the post at Soobramany, stating that Kistnapah Naig had beat the Rajah’s troops, and had taken Munserabad on the 24th of March. As I have not heard from you, or from Colonel Tolfrey, I conclude that there is no truth in the report; but if it should be true, we must only send off the flank companies of the 77th, now at Seringapatam, in readiness to march to Tolfrey’s assistance, with orders to storm Munserabad.

‘ I enclose a copy of Colonel Mignan’s letter.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Cannanore, 5th April, 1800.

‘ I enclose the copy of a letter which I have received from Colonel Tolfrey, and one of a translation of a proclamation which he has published. The account I received from Colonel Mignan cannot be founded.

‘ I likewise enclose the copy of a letter from Mr. Hodgson, the collector of Cheral to Colonel Sartorius. It appears that he has heard of the son of Tippoo, about whom Colonel Mignan gave me information, as being the cause of the desertion among his sepoy recruits. Since the receipt of this letter I have seen Mr. Hodgson, and have explained to him the present state of Tippoo’s family, and the consequent impossibility that one of his sons, or even one of Hyder’s stock, should be in or near the place which he mentions. In answer to this he said, that the person alluded to might not be one of Tippoo’s sons, or might not belong to the family;

but that there was no doubt that there was a man in the southern part of Canara who assumed that character, was collecting troops, and was well received, and respectfully treated by the disaffected in those parts. I urged him strongly to have an eye towards him, and to keep you and me informed of his motions, which he promised. But he said, that being unacquainted with Munro, in whose district the man was, he was fearful of sending any people into it. He said that Munro had an amildar in the country, and that it might be convenient if that man and he were to communicate upon these matters which arise occasionally. It will be well if you give Munro a hint upon this subject; and I hope that before long we shall discover something interesting regarding this impostor.

‘The Commissioners in Malabar will most probably have sent you a copy of their letter to Colonel Sartorius, regarding the distribution of the troops which I had ordered consequent to the directions from Government to postpone the expedition. I have complied with their wishes regarding the native part of the detachment as far as six companies; the other two will go to Cotaparamba to be in readiness to occupy our new posts in Cotiote if they should be finished; or if not, they will remain at Cotaparamba as a farther security to the stores, which, at all events, will be thrown in there during the rains. If we should want more native troops in Canara, I must send them from Nuggur. The Europeans here join their corps at Mangalore and Goa.

‘The six companies are to be in the southern part of Malabar, and will keep matters quiet there during the rains; and I am now making inquiries relative to the mode of penetrating into that part of Malabar from Wynaad or Mysore, should Government think it proper to make a complete settlement of all matters in the province in the next season.

‘Our road-making in Cotiote gets on well. I believe that it will be open as far as Monanderry this day, that is, if the rain and storm of last night has not impeded the work.

‘I have received a letter from Disney, who has lost his wife, and is attacked by the liver complaint himself, and is so much out of sorts altogether as to have determined to quit the service and go home immediately. His command, which is, on many accounts, a very important one, will

devolve upon a Lieutenant in the Bombay army; and, I assure you, that considering the disturbance on the Marhatta frontier, the riches of Nuggur, and the general inclination of all manner of people to plunder, I am rather uneasy at the charge being in the hands of a person who must be so inexperienced. Under these circumstances I am desirous of sending there Colonel Montresor from Chittledroog, whom I do not know, but he bears an excellent character. I shall not do so, however, till I hear from you whether there is any objection to it.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Cannanore, 6th April, 1800.

‘ I have just received your letter of the 3rd. I hear from Koorg that the Rajah is better, although still weak and unwell. I propose to go to Tellicherry to-morrow, and I shall probably return here on the 10th or 11th; and I think matters will be so forward in Cotiote as to allow me to depart for Mysore on the 15th. I shall let you know whether the Rajah will come with me either to Seringapatam or Periapatam; and I will stay with him a day or two in order to give you time to set out from Seringapatam if I should find him disinclined to do either. If you was to set out about the 12th or 13th, and to come as far as Cuttee Mulwary, or Periapatam, at all events it would expedite our meeting, and I think make it certain that the Rajah will come out to Periapatam at least.

‘ When I write to you I will send my letters in a separate packet.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Tellicherry, 10th April, 1800.

‘ I received last night the accounts of Colonel Tolfrey’s defeat, and sent off expresses to make the following arrangement to remedy it. The flank companies of the 77th are on their march towards Chittledroog; and as they are nearest to the Rut country, and have all their equipments prepared, I have ordered them to Ouscota. I have ordered

from Seringapatam, arrack, provisions, and gram, and ammunition; and I have desired that the four companies of the 4th regiment, under Major Capper, may be sent with these articles as an escort. I have no doubt but that the Europeans will settle all matters without difficulty; and from the accounts received I am at a loss to guess from what cause they failed in forcing a barrier to which they could march in three columns, one of them in companies, and upon which they could bring their guns to bear. Colonel Tolfrey has quitted Munserabad, and if he has not thrown into it a proper supply of provisions for the garrison, that fort will be lost, as it may be depended upon that Kistnapah Naig will occupy all the barriers between Munserabad and Ouscota, which it will not be an easy matter to force after what has happened; and I do not expect that the Europeans will reach Ouscota till the 20th at soonest.

The post at Anakeery, at which Colonel Tolfrey failed, does not lie towards the Bissolce Ghaut, but is situated on the right of the road from Ouscota to Munserabad, and is apparently between the road and the Iiyawatty. The co-operation from Canara, therefore, if it were possible, would not answer for some time, at least not till the post at Anakerri shall be forced, and the detachment from this side shall be prepared to force the post which Kistnapah Naig has on the Bissolce ghaut. But the fact is, that there is not a soldier either in Canara or Malabar who can be moved. There are 300 sepoy, and 120 Europeans, at Mangalore; of the latter there will be 400 more in about ten days, when they will have reached that place from hence. I will order them forward to the Soobramany pagoda; and when the Bissolce ghaut comes to be attacked on our side, they can operate from theirs. There is nothing at Cannanore, nothing here, nor nearer to Mangalore than Calicut. They can march thither sooner than they can go by sea at this time of the year; and if they could move immediately the rains, would set in before they would arrive at the scene of operations. We must make the best of it, and depend upon the bayonets of the Europeans; but I acknowledge myself to be much disappointed and vexed at the failure of 1000 sepoy, and 1600 of the Rajah's troops against not a larger number of ryots, in a country by no means difficult, and from which the same people were driven like sheep, and their fort

taken from them in September last by a similar body of troops.

‘ I went this morning to Cotaparamba, which is a neat little mud redoubt about nine miles from hence. It contains buildings which will hold a large quantity of provision and ammunition, with which, please God, they shall be filled in a few days. The road-making goes on well, and has not been interrupted. On the day after to-morrow I shall occupy Pyche fort on the Montana road, and Monanderry pagoda on that leading to Canote, and I hope in a few days afterwards to be able to take possession of the posts, which will be constructed at Montana and Canote.

‘ I propose to return to Cannanore on the day after to-morrow. Mr. Spencer comes here in the morning, which detains me till then, and I shall be at Seringapatam, I hope, on the 22nd.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ *ARTHUR WELLESLEY.*

‘ Colonel Montresor will join the detachment with the flank companies of the 77th, and will command it; and, after what has happened, I do not think that will do us any harm.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ’

‘ *Tellicherry, 11th April, 1800.*

‘ Since I wrote to you yesterday, I have received your letter of the 7th, and Colonel Moneypenny's. As I find that the preparations have been made for moving the Europeans from Seringapatam, I have ordered the flank companies of the 73rd, as well as those of the 77th, to join the detachment at Ouscota; so that they will now have an ample force for every thing that it may be necessary to undertake. I quake for the fort at Munserabad.

‘ If there is any difficulty about removing the sick and wounded of Tolfrey's detachment, Ouscota will answer to hold them till doolies can arrive.

‘ I have received a letter from Government, in which I am asked for my opinion, whether Bangalore will answer for a cantonment for two corps of cavalry. I never thought it would answer for one, as I understood that there was a

scarcity of wood, water, gram, and grass. I shall be obliged to you if you will let me know what you think of it, and whether Chenapatam will not answer better for one regiment at least, if not for both.

‘ According to my former plan, I have ordered the 2nd regiment to Chenapatam for the present. Before I left Seringapatam, Colonel Pater desired I would apply to Purneah for leave for that corps to cut date trees, or other jungle wood, in the forest which runs from Chenapatam to Sultaunpett. If there is no impropriety in it, I shall be obliged to you if you will speak to Purneah upon the subject, and desire him to send orders to the amildar of that district. As these corps must draw every thing from Seringapatam when they are to take the field, all other things being equal, there is no doubt but that Chenapatam will be the most convenient situation; but I believe that it excels Bangalore in many respects, besides that it is in the neighbourhood of the place from which the corps are to be equipped. ’

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.* ’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Cannanore, 12th April, 1800.

‘ I have ordered a detachment from Mangalore to the Soobramany pagoda, which will consist of 400 of the 75th, and a detachment of the grenadier battalion, with one month's provisions, for which, however, they are not to wait, but to proceed with that quantity for which they have at present carriage. The remainder will follow, and I have sent carriage for it from hence.

‘ In order to facilitate the communication between the detachment on the Mysore side, and that in Canara, I have ordered first, that the officer in command at Jemalabad may ascertain the road between his post and the Soobramany pagoda; secondly, that the postmaster in Canara may post many runners upon it; thirdly, that the officer at Jemalabad may take care that all letters, between the detachments, may proceed as addressed. The tappall from Seringapatam to Mangalore has, since its interruption by Kistnapah Naig, run by Oustara, the Gamut Kullghaut, and Jemalabad. I have, therefore, ordered Colonel Tolfrey,

fourthly, to post runners from his camp to Oustara; fifthly, to correspond with the officer in command at Jemalabad, and ascertain the distance from his post to Soobramany, and the length of time which the communication will take; thus the chain will be complete, and its length known.

‘Colonel Tolfrey, however, may want a few peons, and, to complete the arrangement, there ought to be a steady writer at Oustara, who would take care that the packets for the officer commanding the detachment on the Mysore side, should proceed to him regularly. For this I must request your assistance with Mr. Cochrane.

‘I hope that the detachment of the Bombay army will be at Soobramany on the 20th; but, as Anakeery is to be forced in the first instance, and as Colonel Tolfrey’s re-inforcements will not have reached him before that day, the arrangements for attacking the post at the Bissolee ghaut will most probably not be made till towards the end of the month. I hope, however, that, after Anakeery will have been forced, it will not be necessary to attack the Bissolee ghaut.

‘I shall be with you in a very few days. I shall not stay in Koorg as I proposed in a former letter; nor, even if the Rajah should be inclined to come to Seringapatam, shall I wait for him, but push on and leave him with the gentlemen.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Stony River, 15th April, 1800.

‘I have received your letters of the 11th and 12th. Enclosed I send you a letter from the Rajah of Koorg, which, in my opinion, affords a symptom of an intention not to proceed to Seringapatam. I shall be at Veerajundrapett to-morrow, from whence I shall be able to give you more certain accounts of his plans. His man says he is really ill; the doctor left him a few days ago free from disorder, but weak and wanting appetite.

‘The account which you send me enclosed in your letter of the 12th, differs so much from that which I received before of the position at Anakeery, and is so little foundation for the opinions given of its impregnable strength, that I

am at a loss to form any opinion upon the subject. It is clear that there are three principal entrances to the place; that no one of them can be distant from the other above two miles, and that the forest, as it is called, cannot be six miles in circumference. Guns were brought to bear with grape upon the barrier attacked, and it appears that more guns are asked for or expected, therefore the road cannot be very difficult; and, as a havildar is recommended for promotion, for having got over the barrier, I rather imagine that that must be assailable to determined troops. We here imagine that the sepoys did not behave with their accustomed resolution, which was the cause of the failure; and I am the more induced to be of that opinion as Colonel Tolfrey particularly praises the European officers, and non-commissioned officers, and the Rajah's troops, but avoids mentioning the natives in the Company's service. I have, therefore, great hopes from the Europeans which will join the detachment. But it is impossible to say whether the attack ought to be made in one body, or two, or three; and if successful, whether, at this season of the year, it would be proper to press matters farther than to carry the post at Anakeery. For this reason I have determined, if there should be nothing to detain me at Sríngapatam, to join the detachment myself. I have but little doubt that, if one barrier is carried, the whole will be abandoned, or so feebly defended that they will fall without much difficulty, notwithstanding what Colonel Tolfrey says; but it will be a question, whether we ought to push on to the Bissolée ghaut, which must be decided by the true state of the case, in regard to the distance, (which, by the bye, is greater by half as stated by Colonel Tolfrey than as given by Moncrieffe, who has laid down the ghaut by survey, and Munsarabad by different bearings.) the road, the thickness of the jungle, and the positions said to be held by the polygar. Anakeery must be carried at all events, on account of the lateness of the season; the other operations may be postponed without disgrace.

‘I shall reach Sríngapatam on the 19th in the morning. In the meantime, by this post, I order 100 pioneers to be got ready to move, and provided with cutting tools. I have likewise ordered the grape-shot and other things, for which Colonel Tolfrey has asked.

'The tappalls in Malabar are like every thing else there. They are managed by a gentleman in the civil service, who resides at Mahée, where he is Deputy Commercial Resident. It was not easy to get an addition made to the number of runners.

'I hear from the frontier, that Dhoondiah has not yet taken Gudduck; but it was expected that he would attempt to storm it in three or four days after the 4th instant. He was settling the country, and even had collected from it some money.

'I have this instant received yours of the 13th.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL,

'Veerajundrapett, 16th April, 1800.

'I omitted to enclose the letter, No. 1, in mine of yesterday, from Stony River; the letter No. 2 is just arrived. I am informed that the Rajah has a disorder in his bladder which confines him to his bed at Nauknaar. I have desired his man to inform him that I will return to meet him when I hear that he is recovered.

'I received your letter of the 14th this morning. If I find on the road that you have left Seringapatam I shall not hurry from Periapatam as I proposed yesterday.

'An officer is arrived at Hullihall in Soonda; his name is Captain Marshall. I this day write to the coast to inquire what kind of man he is, and if he should not be fit for his station, I will send somebody to take charge of the post.

'I propose to desire Sir William Clarke to have an eye to that frontier for the present, and to afford it relief if necessary, as there are no troops in Canara to send to it if it should be desirable to reinforce it.

'Believe me, &c.

• 'Lieut. Colonel Close.

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

'I have desired Sir William Clarke to make an arrangement with Uhtoffe for running a tappall between Soopah and Goa. It appears that Uhtoffe will be able to settle it more easily than Mr. Cochrane, who is so far from the road.'

of revenging himself, and, therefore, that he would not object to the size and strength of his detachment upon light ground. As hand grenades, however, are upon the whole all that are wanting, I have no doubt but that Colonel Montresor will find muskets and bayonets sufficient, and that he will succeed.

‘ I will write this day about the Postmaster at Nuggur.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 23rd April, 1800.

‘ I conclude that there will be no impediment to the communication by the Candulgull ghaut as soon as the post at Anakeery will be carried, and, therefore, it is desirable that the peons should remain upon the road, and the writer at Oustara. I have written to the commanding officer, in Canara, to tell him that this interruption of our intercourse is to make no alteration in the instructions which I before sent to the officer commanding the detachment at Soobramany, and that the Post Office people are to be prepared to carry on the communication when it may be practicable.

‘ I have received a letter from Colonel Sartorius, by which it appears that our road was advanced about six miles beyond Pyche on the 18th.

‘ Will you and your gentlemen dine with me on Sunday?

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 26th April, 1800.

‘ I enclose an extract from a letter, which I have received from Lieut. Colonel Mignan, which contains uncomfortable news. I have before now received news from this same man which has turned out unfounded; and this fort is represented as so strong, and so difficult of access, that, if any part of the garrison was on the top of it, I am in hopes that it is still in our hands; I shall know it to-morrow. At all events, I have desired Colonel Mignan to equip to take it if it has fallen, and in case he should have no howitzers at

Mangalore, I am preparing some here, which I will send down.

‘ The employment of the 75th at Jemalabad will have no immediate effect upon our operations in Bullum, as you may recollect; but, if the fort has fallen, it will have serious consequences, indeed, upon our means of putting an army into the field upon our northern frontier (if that should be necessary), and upon the operations in the next season in Wynaad and Cotiote. I reckoned upon two or three battalions of the Bombay army for the former, and all that might be employed in the latter will be taken up at this siege, which probably cannot be vigorously carried on till after the monsoon.

‘ I have received accounts this morning stating, that the Nizam’s killadar and amildar have left Harponelly and gone to Rydroog, that the whole frontier is alarmed, &c. Cuppage has sent me a letter which he has received from the Gonnair polygar, in which he says plainly, if a certain arrangement is made of the country, “ I will do my best endeavors to regain my rights by arms or other means.” And the amildar of the district writes to Cuppage, that this polygar has got 4000 or 5000 Carnatic peons. Looking at the whole of our situation, I have determined that, if Jemalabad has really fallen, I will collect as many troops as can be spared from the garrisons, as the only means of deterring the fellows, by whom we are surrounded, from rising immediately.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 27th April, 1800.

‘ I received a letter from Colonel Mignan this morning, dated the 20th, by which it appears that he is not certain that Jemalabad is taken. He says that a soubahdar arrived on the 20th at Mangalore, from Soobramany, that he must have passed very near to Jemalabad, and that he heard nothing of what had happened till he met the 75th regiment, which marched from Mangalore on the evening of the 19th towards Jemalabad.

‘ I have inquired respecting Mirza Ali Reza, and I cannot

find that any such person ever belonged to Tippoo's family, or that he is at all known here.

' Believe me, &c.

' *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

' ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

' I have just received a letter from Colonel Tolfrey, dated 25th, in which he says that Bishtoo Pundit had informed him that he had received a report from the amildar at Oustara, stating that the fort of Jemalabad had been surprised and taken, and the whole garrison put to death. There is another letter from Kistnapah Naig, in much the same terms as the last.

' I rather believe that Anakeery will have been attacked on this day.'

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

' MY DEAR COLONEL,

' Seringapatam, 1st May, 1800.

' I did not write to you yesterday, when I had ascertained that we had entirely lost Jemalabad, because I concluded that you would have seen the letter which I wrote to the Secretary of Government. The fort was taken, not by Kistnapah Naig, but by 150 of the recruits, who deserted from Mangalore in March, and they were under the orders of the havildar, who deserted with them. Colonel Cumine expected to take the lower fort without difficulty; and he has been ordered to attempt it: to take the upper fort will be a long operation, for which I have made arrangements by collecting troops, &c. &c. I have not given orders for collecting the troops to the northward as I intended, as really the measure appears to me to be one of some consequence. Government have had before them, since the 19th of April, the orders for putting the cavalry in the field, the information upon which they were founded, and such other information as might render necessary a more formidable equipment. Upon these they have given no opinion; and, as it is not a measure of absolute necessity, I do not like to go any farther.

' Mr. Cochrane was to arrange with Purneah about sending off to Gonnair 450 of the infantry now at Mysore.

' I expect to hear this evening or to-morrow morning of the success of the attack upon Anakeery.

' Believe me, &c.

' *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

' ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 7th May, 1800. .

‘ As I expected you back, I have not written to you for several days. You will have heard from Mr. Webbe of our success at Anakeery. By the last letters from Colonel Montresor it appears that he was about to march towards the Bissolce ghaut with the Europeans and part of the detachment, and to send Colonel Tolfrey to Saylispoor, with his own corps and the Rajah's cavalry and infantry, to complete the provisioning of Munserabad. The polygar had occupied Anakeery again, and had begun again to establish the barriers. Indeed they had not had time to destroy the jungle entirely, and until that was done it could not be expected but that the polygar would still remain in it if possible, and endeavor to re-establish himself there. The great object has been gained; he and his people have been made to understand that it is not so easy to keep out our troops as they imagined, and I am afraid that the further subjection of him must be delayed to some future period. I will write to Colonel Montresor to desire that, if possible, he will clear out the jungle at Anakeery; but it is really not worth while to lose any man for that object, as there are many polygar stations of the same kind on both sides of the Hynwatty, and it will be impossible to destroy them all at present.

‘ We have got possession of the lower forts of Jemalabad; but the holders of the upper fort have fired upon Colonel Cumine's flag, and refuse to have any communication. I have adopted a plan for blowing up the lower part of the steps, so as to cut off all hope of relief; and then we shall be able to secure the blockade by a force which will be equal to the defence of the lower forts against the attempts which Kistnapuh Naig will make upon them. Howitzers will not answer at Jemalabad; and I have therefore ordered there a thirteen and a ten-inch mortar, which must go from Cannanore in order to amuse those in the upper fort during the rains.

‘ Dhoondiah, it is said, has got possession of Dummul, in the same manner that he got Gudduck, and that with his whole force he was advancing to Havanoor in the Savanore country,

about two coss from Oollall, but on the other side of the Toombuddra. The cavalry will be collected by this time at Chittledroog; and I have given orders that they may march immediately to Hurryhur, with eight companies of the 1st battalion 8th regiment, and four field-pieces, for which I have sent bullocks from hence. The 1st regiment will have their gallopers, and the 2nd regiment will have theirs in a few days, which I have cramped up for them; it is impossible to do any thing to those belonging to the 4th regiment.

‘ I have sent orders to occupy Hurryhur with a small detachment of this infantry and two guns if necessary; to remain in that neighbourhood with the remainder of the force, likewise to occupy Hoonelly with infantry and guns if necessary: when the river comes down here the boats will be collected.

‘ When the rains set in it will not be difficult to ascertain Dhoondiah’s plans, and to take effectual measures to oppose him. He must determine upon an invasion of Bednore and Soonda, or of Harponelly, Anagoondy, and Chittledroog. If of the former, he will remain on the other side of the Toombuddra till it fills; if of the latter, he will cross the river early. Our boats at Hoonelly, and a little intelligence in the people employed on the frontier, will give us great advantages in opposing either plan.

‘ At Purneah’s desire I altered the disposition of the infantry as proposed by you. He thought cavalry would answer better in Gonnair (and if his description of the country be correct, I agree with him), and infantry at Bullum, where, by all accounts, the cavalry has not been of much use. We have, therefore, drawn away from the latter 200 horse, which are ordered to Gonnair, making in the whole 500 horse on that side, and have sent the infantry into Bullum. I saw the corps, and had some of their cartridges changed, and other exchanges made at the arsenals, and they are gone well equipped.

‘ I thought that collecting the army was a more serious matter than it appears at first, and I am glad that I have omitted to do it, although, as a military measure, it is certainly desirable.

‘ We are getting a grand equipment of field carriages from Madras, and I hope that all will go smooth.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 18th May, 1800.

‘ In regard to Munro’s public letter I have to answer, that the moment I heard of the riot he mentions I wrote to the commanding officer in Canara to desire that he would provide a force to check it; and I do not believe there will be any difficulty in sending to Vittell the number of troops which it appears Munro thinks sufficient.

‘ It is very true that the mortars were all at Cannanore at the time when Jemalabad was taken; but it is not true that there has been time to get them from thence. I have heard that they have left Cannanore; but as the northerly winds prevail at this season of the year, I do not believe that they are yet at Mangalore.

‘ Munro is mistaken also regarding the howitzer, which he says is fitting up at Mangalore. It has been at Jemalabad since the 10th.

‘ I am sorry that Munro thinks that matters do not go on so quickly as they ought in Canara; but one fact proves that they have not been very slow there, which is, that the fort of Jemalabad was surprised on the 19th, a force was before it on the 21st, and the lower forts were retaken in a day or two afterwards. That the mortars and shells were in Malabar, that they are difficult to move, and that the winds are contrary, is no more to be attributed to Colonel Mignan than the surprise of the place was.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Camp at Archinelly, 22nd May, 1800.

‘ I am obliged to you for your account of the murder, which shocked me much. I hear from Colonel Saxon that he has taken measures for the apprehension of the perpetrators of it, in case they should be on the island; and I have

hopes that at all events they will be caught, and will meet with the punishment which they deserve.

‘ We are within three miles of Chinna, have got on well, excepting the Company’s carts, which already want repair. We likewise want some bullock drivers, coolies, spare bullocks, &c. ; but I have threatened a muster at Nagamunglum, which I hope will bring out of Seringapatam all those who belong to us, and have remained behind.

‘ I have received a letter of the 18th from Colonel Mignan, in which he says that some fellows had plundered Buntwell in the neighbourhood of Vittell, and about half way on the road between Mangalore and Jemalabad. He had sent a force there, and there were hopes of being able to cut off the upper fort of Jemalabad entirely.

‘ I have received a most distressing account of the state of the 1st regiment of cavalry ; they had been very sickly ; latterly some men have died ; the whole regiment are much frightened and out of spirits, and about twenty sepoy, nine of whom had been many years in the service, have deserted. I have desired Pater to halt them at Hurryhur, to put the sick under cover, and the whole regiment into the fort, if necessary.

‘ As Dr. Anderson thinks they will not recover either health or spirits till they reach Arcot, I am afraid that I shall be obliged to send them to the rear entirely, and eventually to the Carnatic.

‘ General Braithwaite tells me that he will be obliged to call for the 4th regiment, and will send four troops of the 19th. I have informed him of this circumstance regarding the 1st regiment, and I have asked for the whole of the 19th. With that, the 25th, and the 2nd regiment, we shall still be strong enough.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ The 74th regiment are ordered to halt at Wallajahbad.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ Camp at Archinelly, 22nd May, 1800,

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

9 P. M.

‘ I enclose the copy of a letter which I have received from Major Browne. Jerrah is in Soonda, about four miles from

the Werdah, and close to the Marhatta frontier; it is twelve miles from Chundergooty, where we have a post of one officer, and a company of sepoy, and there is another at Bilghy, twelve miles from thence.

'To order the cavalry to cross the Toombuddra and the Werdah to Jerrah will never answer. The distance would be very great; and the country is so jungly that they could not act when they should arrive there. I have written to Sir William Clarke letters in triplicate, to inform him of what has happened, and I do not doubt but that the party will move out of the Company's territories as soon as they hear that the battalion is coming up, which must now be far advanced on its march from Goa. To attempt any thing else will be useless till I approach nearer to the frontier.

'The communication with our troops in Soonda is cut off, as the tappall necessarily passed through Jerrah.

'I have desired Major Brown to draw the troops from Bilghy, to destroy that place entirely, and to re-inforce with them the fort at Chandergooty.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

'As I think it desirable that Government should receive this intelligence as soon as possible, as it may quicken their decision regarding our operations, I sent it off this night by express.'

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'Camp, two miles north of Chinna,
23rd May, 1800.

'MY DEAR COLONEL,

'I have this morning received a letter from the Adjutant General, by which I am ordered to send to Ryacotta two companies of the 2nd of the 5th. This will weaken us at rather a valuable point, but it cannot be helped. There is nothing for it but to withdraw some men from Nundydroog, and form a little detachment for field service, with guns, under Cuppage, which might move about from place to place as it might be necessary.

'It is not yet certain that the 74th will come up; but if they do they shall be halted somewhere in front of Bangalore, to give a countenance to our troops thereabouts until we absolutely want them in this country.

‘ I get on well ; our bazaar is not quite so numerous as I expected from the appearance of that which was placed on the north side of the river. I rather imagine that the dealers there find their situation very advantageous, and that they will still remain there ; and if they can, keep the exemption from duties which Purneah has been so kind as to allow the bazaar hitherto. As this was granted only that they might be at all times prepared to take the field with the troops, it will be proper to withdraw it now that these are in the field. If any of them are staying behind with an intention of taking an unfair advantage of Purneah’s indulgence, the discontinuance of it will bring them out to join us. .

‘ I desired Captain West to write to Mr. Cochrane to request that the runners might be again posted on the road between Bangalore and Sera, and that he would write to the Post Master General at Fort St. George, to desire that letters for the army and the northern garrisons might be sent by that road in a separate bag.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ Upon looking over Cuppage’s returns, I find that he can have a detachment of 4 or 500 men, with two guns, leaving his garrison well provided, and a good detachment in Goomnair, which, in case of disturbance, he would of course join.

‘ I have desired Barclay to write to Cuppage, and desire him to put this measure in execution if he thinks it will answer better than the present arrangement ; and I shall, by this day’s post, desire Mr. Gordon to prepare for it, and MacIntire to send muskets and ammunition, which is all they can want.

‘ Severndroog and Oustraydroog are occupied by small parties from the 2nd of the 5th ; will you be so kind as to speak to Purneah about placing in those two forts a few trusty peons, on whom he can depend, that they will give them up to us when we may require them ? I have written to the commanding officer in the Baramahl to desire that he will make a similar arrangement with Mr. Graham for occupying Anchitty Droog, Ratengerry, and Shoolgerry.

‘ I enclose a letter from Colonel Pater ; will you desire Purneah to give orders to the killadar to make the repairs

to the fort of Hurryhur, and throw in there a supply of provisions ?

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ Camp at Nagamunglum,
24th May, 1800.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ I have received a letter from Colonel Pater, in which he says, that there are no provisions in Hurryhur. He has, however, thrown in there five companies of the 1st of the 8th, and two guns; but I am afraid the want of provisions will oblige him to withdraw them again.

‘ He likewise complains of want of gram. There is plenty in the country, and I have informed him that Purneah has taken all restrictions off the sale of every kind of grain. I suspect the gram agents do not exert themselves as they ought; but I have given them a brush through Colonel Pater, and have informed him that the system under which they are agents, has not been hitherto approved; and that if the service fails for want of gram after all that has been done to procure it, it is more than probable that another system will be adopted.

‘ What do you think of Government having given power to the gram agents to draw upon Madras for 4500 pagodas each, without saying one word to any of us in this country upon the subject; the monthly interest of which sum alone is sufficient to pay for the monthly expenditure of gram?

‘ I get on famously, and expect the detachment from Bullum to-morrow.

‘ The 1st regiment must go to the Carnatic, nothing else can save them.

‘ I hope the Rajah of Koorg is not dead; we generally lose by the transfer of a government from one hand to another.

‘ The battalion is on its march from Goa. I reckon that it will have arrived at Hullihall by this time, and will be at Hoonelly as soon as I can. I have sent it orders to attack our friend at Jerrah.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Nagamunglum,
24th May, 1800.

‘ I think the plan of marking the calves a very good one, and I shall be glad if it is carried into execution.

‘ Lieut. Colonel Montresor’s detachment is come in, but the native corps are miserably weak. Lieut. Colonel Tolfrey’s battalion has only about 300 men for duty.

‘ I have had another letter from Pater, by which it appears that he had had an interview with the amildar at Hurryhur, with whom he was perfectly satisfied. The amildar had expressed his readiness to do every thing in his power to assist the detachment.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Nagamunglum.
26th May, 1800.

‘ I have received from Major Cuppage rather a curious account of a fellow who is raising horse in that neighbourhood, with the knowledge of the amildar, and who has not communicated to him any thing upon the subject; I conclude that you have received the account, and therefore I do not send it to you.

‘ I march on to-morrow. Purneah has sent some orders here to allow all provisions coming to camp to pass free of toll. I understood that he had given orders to that effect in all parts of the country; and if that is the case, it will be better that our brinjarries and bazaar people should not have these papers in their hands, of which it may be certain that they will make a bad use.

‘ If, however, Purneah prefers that they should have in their hands these papers, rather than give one general order to all his amildars, &c., upon this subject, it will be necessary that we should have more of them in camp. I shall not allow any of these orders to be given out till I receive your answer to this letter.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR CLOONEL,

‘ Camp at Bellor, 27th May, 1800.

‘ I have received yours of the 26th and its enclosures. I had already heard of the march of the battalion from Goa, and have provided bullocks for them. I did not know of their want of money; but Captain Munro's supply of that, and of bullocks, to bring them through Soonda will be very acceptable.

‘ I enclose you a letter which I received last night, which agrees with Captain Munro's account, rather than with that of Ram Rao, of the nature of the force which has entered Soonda; Ram Rao's cavalry will have driven them out before the Bombay battalion will be near them. It does not come by the Budnaghur road, but by that of Soonda and Severy, unless the officer commanding it should alter his route upon hearing of the irruption of these vagabonds.

‘ Whether they belong to Dhoondiah, or are only robbers, it is clear that it is necessary that we should come to an understanding with the Marhattas regarding that frontier.

‘ I enclose you some papers which I received last night from Colonel Sartorius, by which it appears that Dhoondiah has been meddling in Malabar. I acknowledge that I should rather believe the truth to be that the letter to the Cheral Rajah was written by the Pyche; but whether it was or not, it is very clear that the name of Dhoondiah is made use of among all the Company's turbulent subjects, to create disturbances; and it is therefore the more incumbent upon our Government to get the better of him. I have received an excellent account of Hoonelly from Colonel Pater, who desired Captain Balfour of the artillery to visit it. He reports it to be in a perfect state of defence, guns, powder, shot, provisions, &c., well arranged and prepared. All appears to be so perfect, that I do not propose to put any of our troops into the fort unless the killadar wishes it; and I shall be obliged to you if you will mention him to Purneah, as a man deserving encouragement. The boats are in great forwardness; and there is a large wooden boat at Hooly Honore which I propose to have brought down to Hoonelly as soon as the river fills.

‘ I return you the bill for the cook rooms, which I have

signed, and to which I have annexed a copy of the authority which I received from Government to build them. If you will send the bill to Gordon he will pay it.

‘The pension to Mahomed Ally is 250 star pagodas per annum, payable at Seringapatam on the Family Fund, and is in Class No. 1. He received the arrears of it from the 1st of January. We agreed about Shah Abbas, as you say.

‘The guards at Severndroog and Oustradroog belong to the companies of the 2nd of the 5th, and they will soon be withdrawn. This is the reason why I am anxious that Purneah should place people in those forts on whom he can depend.

‘I write to Colonel Sartorius this day, and I shall desire him, in case he perceives any symptoms of serious insurrection in Malabar, to begin to bring his forces together in such manner as that they will be secure and prepared to join one another when the season opens.

‘I conclude that Stevenson will have informed you of the attempts which have been made to seduce the sepoys to desert from the 2nd of the 3rd. A committee was assembled to examine into the matter, but they could make nothing of it, although Stevenson thinks that Dhoondiah has been endeavoring to raise men at Chittledroog, as it appears that Cuppage thinks that he has been making the same endeavor at his post and district. It certainly is very desirable, on many accounts, that our troops should be kept separate from the inhabitants at Chittledroog, and I accordingly desired Stevenson to turn over the subject in his mind, and to let me know whether it would not be possible to remove all the inhabitants from the fort, properly so called, into what I understand is the pettah, although it is equally surrounded by a strong wall, and that the former might be given up solely and entirely to the troops, who should have nothing to do with, and should not inhabit the latter. I do not know whether Colonel Stevenson has entirely comprehended the meaning of what I wrote to him; but if he has, he appears to be of opinion that it will be practicable, and not difficult to remove from the fort all the inhabitants.

‘I shall be glad if you will let me know what you think upon this subject, and whether there will be any objection to the arrangement on the part of Purneah. I understand that

the inhabitants of Chittledroog are very numerous, that they are of the cast of the old Rajahs, and were, in general, heretofore sepoys and peons in the service of the Sultaun. They refuse to take service with us in any manner whatever; at Chittledroog we can get neither recruits, servants, lascars, coolies or bullock drivers; and I cannot think that it will be very safe to leave in a fort with our troops a large number of fellows such as these are described to be.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ Upon looking over the authority from Government I perceive it goes only to repairs; but the building of the offices was allowed, I know, in a private letter from Webb. Send the authority to the Paymaster, or not, as you think fit.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Camp at Curruh, 29th May, 1800.

‘ I received yours of the 27th yesterday, and I immediately wrote to Colonel Stevenson to desire he would inquire into the circumstances stated by ———. I also requested him to let ——— know my opinion regarding the concluding paragraph of his letter to Mr. Cochrane.

‘ I have given out an order to the purport proposed by you regarding the disputes of the officers with the Post Office people.

‘ I arrived here this morning, and I shall halt to-morrow, as my cattle have suffered much from the rain and from the refusal of the people of the country to sell their straw. The protection which has been afforded to the villages has nearly ruined us; but I have pressed my hircarrahs and the amildars of this place a good deal upon the subject, and I hope to get on better. I shall be obliged to you if you will speak to Purneah upon the subject, and prevail upon him to write to the amildars in this country to desire that we may have straw, paying for the same at the rate fixed for that delivered to the cavalry; viz. four bullock loads for a rupee.

‘ I am afraid that I shall not be able to allow Colonel Tolfrey’s battalion to go to Paughur; as, however weak it may be, we cannot spare it. I may, perhaps, be able to take out from Chittledroog one of the battalions which are stronger,

and to put his in there; but as he will not be permanently fixed there, I do not think that his situation will be much mended by that arrangement, although I shall gain a strong instead of a weak battalion.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp near Cheyloor, 31st May, 1860.

‘ I conclude that you will have received a copy of the instructions which I received yesterday from Government, dated the 25th instant, and therefore I do not enclose you one. By these I am authorized to enter the Marhatta territory.

‘ Upon a consideration of the whole of our situation it appears to me that the best thing I can do is to cross the Toombuddra immediately, with the troops which I shall have with me by the time I reach it, and I think that I ought to cross it below Oollall and the junction of the Werdah with it; I shall then be in the Marhatta territory, and on the same side of the river with Dhoondiah; and if I find it necessary I may wait there till I am joined by the 25th dragoons and the money, and I can collect there boats which may be wanting to transport across the river brinjarries, &c., which will follow me. The advantage in my being across the river will be, that when it comes down, there will be less to be crossed over than if I remain on this side of it, and by crossing below Oollall and the junction with the Werdah, I save the passage of that river, and the march through the northern part of Bednore, and I am in a better place for receiving every thing than if I were to go up to Anawooty and Jerrah. I might certainly cross the Toombuddra at Hoonelly, and wait there in our own territory till I should receive every thing; but then I shall have the Werdah to pass after it will have filled, and exclusive of the difficulties of the march through the Bednore country, the passage of that river will be found as difficult as that of the Toombuddra; therefore, at all events, it would seem proper to cross the latter below the junction, whatever may be the period at which it may be crossed, and the question is narrowed to this point, shall I cross it imme-

diately and wait on the other side, or shall I wait on this side till I am joined by every thing I expect. I acknowledge that I think I ought to cross immediately, but I shall be glad to have your opinion upon this subject.

‘I believe Ball Kishen Punt is the principal Marhatta personage in Savanore, and I ought to write to him. Would it not be advisable also to open a correspondence with Appah Saheb and Goklah, Bappojee Scindiah, &c. &c. Let me have your opinion on these points.

‘I think of moving two heavy guns up to Oollall, in case I should find them necessary. I have bullocks for them.

‘I made a famous march this morning of fourteen miles in four hours.

‘I enclose the copy of a letter from Captain Macgregor to Colonel Pater; I have written to the latter to inform him that I have received repeated letters from you, in which you state that there is no impediment to the sale of gram, or any thing else on the part of the sircar, therefore that the gram agents have only to offer a good price, and they will get what they want; and if they do not get it, they must expect that other means of procuring it will be adopted, which may not prove very agreeable to them.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘*Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Camp at Curruh, 31st May, 1800.

‘I enclose the letter from Major Cuppage, by which you will perceive how the matter stands regarding the amildar. It appears, however, very clearly that he was mistaken, as he reported the matter to Purneah.

‘I received last night a letter from Lord Mornington regarding the offer of the command of the troops intended for Batavia. He seems to think it an advantage to me, and that some credit will be gained by it, as the object is a great one in England; but I have written to Lord Clive to desire that he will accept of it for me, or not, according as he may find it most convenient for the public service, after having ascertained from the Admiral the period of his departure from the coast. A letter received this day from Madras,

with instructions to enter the Marhatta country, has determined me not to accept of it in any event.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ Have you heard any thing from Macleod, or Munro, or Graham, about money? that is the subject upon which I am most anxious at the present moment.

‘ What do you think of ———, who, when the 25th dragoons were about to ascend the Pednaig Durgum pass, ordered them round by Ryacotta? I expected them to join me at Sera; they will not now be there for a fortnight; and I cannot guess for what reason they were not allowed to proceed by the route first intended.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ Camp, two miles south of Columbella,
1st June, 1800.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ I have received your letter of the 30th May, from which it appears that you and I agree in one point, viz., that, till we cross the Toombuddra, we can do nothing effectual towards destroying Dhoondiah or dispersing his force. You fear for our want of provisions, and I have the pleasure to inform you that I have every reason to expect to have really 10,000 brinjarries. I shall have besides 1,200 loads of gram in a gram department, and, in the provision department, arrack, which I can make to last four or five months, but sheep only for one. Of this last we shall find the greatest want.

‘ I do not believe that the Savanore country has been much laid waste; that part of it which I saw last year was in good order, and appeared well cultivated. Soonda is certainly supplied from it; and, from the price of grain there, even when I was in it, I should not imagine that article to be scarce in Savanore. We shall certainly have some party in the country in our favour, and, if that is the case, we may expect to draw some supplies from it. I fear, however, a want of gram for the cavalry: the agents are very remiss. The regiments have carriage only for fourteen days. There will probably be but little gram in the Marhatta country, and it is in general an article so cheap and so common that it will be difficult to prevail upon the brinjarries to carry

much of it. I must, however, try that, and I must likewise endeavor to remove the depôt now collecting at Chittledroog, from thence to Hurryhur, or to Oollall, if you should agree in opinion with me as to the propriety of crossing the Toombuddra immediately.

‘I see no prospect of co-operation with the Nizam’s troops if they are to remain north of the Kistna. All these objects of ———, so incompatible with one another, will at last ruin us. If he is in earnest about Dhoondiah, why is not the subsidiary force to cross the Kistna and to come near him? But the truth is, that, while he fears Dhoondiah on the one hand, he has some wild plan in view to the northwards, and, if we do not cross the Toombuddra, Dhoondiah will plunder the Dooab, and ——— will not be able to effect his purpose with his troops on the north bank of the Kistna; at the same time that they will, most probably, be too far removed from the scene of action to be able to give their assistance towards forwarding his northern plans.

‘I will push off a letter to Lieut. Colonel Maclean, as soon as I shall have determined upon my plan after hearing from you; but I think our communication will be useless, as he is to remain on the north bank of the Kistna.

‘Your account of the horsemen in the Nundydroog district is unpleasant, but I think that the measures taken by Purneah to keep them in check will have its effect, particularly when Cuppage shall have his detachment in the field. The families of these Musselmén are a strong hold upon them, and they ought to be prevented from moving either with or without them. If there is any serious collection of them, would it not be proper to seize the horse of every man not in the Rajah’s service, or who may not be licensed to keep one? To do this will require some previous arrangement to provide for their sudden seizure, and for the care of them after they have been seized; but I do not think it will be absolutely impracticable. My idea of Chittledroog, is to separate the garrison and the inhabitants, so that the former shall not be liable to be surprised by the latter. This, I understand, can be done without removing the inhabitants from what I improperly called the pettah, but which is in reality the fort. If I find that that is the case, I do not intend to bear hard upon them; but, as Purneah agrees

in the propriety of the measure, I shall request the amildar to remove them outside entirely by degrees, and at their convenience.

‘I am glad to hear such good accounts from Bullum, as I was afraid, from Colonel Montresor’s account, that there might have been some difficulty in keeping the garrison in Munserabad during the monsoon. It appears, however, now that they have got confidence in themselves.

‘I have got a long packet from Pater, with what it is useless to trouble you. It is just the old story of opposition on the part of the amildar, for which there are *secret springs* which are entirely unaccountable. The pith of it is in the enclosed letter.

‘I have written to him again, to tell him that orders have been given to sell every thing to his detachment, and that he has nothing to do but to pay. I have got on well in every respect, and I have not received any complaints respecting my followers. We have been well supplied with forage since I wrote last on that subject, for which the people pay the regulated price. The green forage is beginning to appear, and we shall then be nearly entirely independent of the dry.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘I enclose the concluding paragraph of Pater’s letter, which gives some consolation, notwithstanding the “*secret springs*.” I likewise enclose a letter which was brought to me by mistake last night.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Camp at Sera, 2nd June, 1800.

‘I enclose a correspondence with Colonel Stevenson upon the subject of ——— and the Postmaster.

‘My opinion of this correspondence is just this; that I ought to put ——— in arrest as soon as I shall have received Colonel Stevenson’s answer to my letter of this day, and then forward the whole correspondence to head quarters. As a trial will be the consequence of this measure, it may be doubted, as the issue is always uncertain, and as ———’s letter, however indecent, is so worded as in some parts to have two meanings, whether I ought to put him in arrest, and

whether I ought not to confine myself to the transmission of the papers to General Braithwaite; but the persons to whom I have shown ——'s letter are clearly of opinion that no Court Martial can pass it over, and, therefore, I am afraid that, if I report him without putting him in arrest, I shall receive from head quarters a censure for not supporting my own authority.

'No man is a competent judge in his own cause, and I shall, therefore, be obliged to you for your opinion upon this subject, if you will send it to me together with the enclosed papers, and either the original letter, written by —— to Mr. Cochrane, or a certified copy, as soon as possible.

'I enclose a letter from Captain Macgregor to Colonel Pater, upon which some inquiry may probably be necessary.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL,

'Camp at Sera, 3rd June, 1800.

'I am sorry to tell you that there are many complaints from the officers who have been here, of the behavior of the amildar. It appears that he sends them insolent messages, that what they want, such as artificers, &c., he will not allow them to have without his orders, which he afterwards will not give; that he keeps provisions, meat, &c., at an enormous price. I give some credit to these reports, because they are confirmed by a very good young man, a Mr. Macgregor, of the 73rd, who was some time in the 33rd, and who I know is not very difficult to please, and would not make the report if there was not some foundation for it. It will be proper that at all events he should be put upon his guard, as we cannot expect moderation from our young men here, if they are not civilly treated.

'The place appears in fine order and getting on, so that it would be unfortunate if he were removed from it.

'I enclose you a Marhatta letter from Purneah to the amildar of Buswaputtum, from which I fear that he misunderstood the arrangement we made with him. I intended, and so did you, that there should be perfect liberty to purchase

gram every where for every body, and, so far from wishing that Gordon should buy it near Chittledroog, I particularly desired him to make his purchases at a distance, in order that he might not interfere with the cavalry in the field. I am afraid that our friend the Paymaster has disobeyed my orders, and that he has teased Purneah into giving him or his servant the enclosed letter.

‘ I enclose the draft of a letter, which I have written to the amildar of Buswaputtum, in order, if possible, to avert the evil effects of Purneah’s letter.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Hurryhur, 4th June, 1800.

‘ I enclose an extract of a letter which I have received from Major Blaquierre, regarding the complaint of a bazaar man at Bangalore, about cumleys purchased by Mr. Ward.

‘ Yesterday I sent a patrol to Arnee to reconnoitre the place, meaning to attack it this day, as soon as some ladders were made. It was evacuated last night, my troops are now in the fort, and I propose that it should be delivered over to Ball Kishen Punt this afternoon.

‘ I hear that Dhoondiah is gone to the northward.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Woodanelly, 5th June, 1800.

‘ Some of our dooley boys from the Carnatic have deserted, and others are likely to follow their example. I shall be obliged to you if you will speak to Purneah, and request him to give directions to his amildars to stop them or any others of our followers that may pass through their districts. One deserter stopped and brought back to camp will tend greatly to put an end to desertion. I am very anxious to receive your answers to my letters of the 1st and the 2nd. I have received Colonel Stevenson’s answer to the letter, a copy of which I enclosed to you, and he says that he does not think ———’s letter in question an improper one. This

by no means alters the state of the case, unless I choose to avail myself of it as being the opinion of an officer of rank upon the subject, and to let off ——— by referring all the papers to the Commander in Chief. In that case it is not unlikely but that Colonel Stevenson may be as severely reprimanded for his opinion as ——— will be for his letter.

‘ However, I do not feel myself by any means inclined to this mode of proceeding; and I only wait for your answer to my letter of the 2nd, in order to put him in arrest.

‘ Colonel Pater sent an officer to look at Oollall, who reports favorably of it, and of the killadar. They want, however, some ammunition and stores, which I will forward to them from Chittledroog.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Eyamungalum, 7th June, 1800.

‘ I have received your letter of the 4th, for which I am obliged to you; I shall immediately make my arrangements for crossing the river; but I am afraid I am too late for Savanore, as it is reported (but by Stevenson’s hirearrahs) that Dhoondiah has got possession of that fort. Ram Rao wrote on the 2nd, that he was still at Dummul.

‘ I have written to Colonel Maclean, and sent off my letter by camel hirearrahs. I have told him that my intention was to cross the Toombuddra as soon as I could have represented the necessity of his co-operations, and have proposed generally that he should cross the Kistna and proceed towards the frontier. I have promised that I would write farther when I had determined upon my own plan of operations, and should have been able to decide in what manner he could co-operate in them from a farther knowledge of the country, &c. &c.

‘ In the meantime his crossing the Kistna and moving up the Dooab, will place him in such a manner that he will be prepared for whatever may be found most proper.

‘ I have written to Ball Kishen Punt, and have proposed a meeting with him.

‘ I stated generally in my letter the outline of Dhoondiah’s

history, as far as we had any thing to do with it, have told him that we were about to enter the Marhatta territory, where we expected to be treated as allies, and have promised that I should exert myself to prevent any injury to the country in consequence of our army being in it.

‘ I have also written to Appah Saheb to tell him that I was advancing to oppose Dhoondiah, and should be glad to communicate with him on our common object.

‘ I will let you know about ——— when I hear the result of a message which I sent to him this morning.

‘ The order which I have already given about the Post Office is nearly what you propose, but I will alter it, and I will give out the order which you wish for regarding the price of straw, &c., on the roads. I have not yet seen any of the heads of the brinjarries, although I have sent for them frequently; I conclude that Purneah has desired them to attend our camp. If he has not I shall be obliged to you if you will request him to send them orders to that effect; at all events I have written to Vincatjee to desire that he will collect them at Chittledroog as soon as he can.

‘ The elephant belongs to the karkana, but you may as well keep him with you till we meet.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Camp at Chittledroog, June 8, 1800.

‘ I told you in my letter of yesterday that I had sent Captain West to ———, to inform him that I conceived ~~his~~ letter to be highly disrespectful and improper, as such that I called upon him to withdraw it, and acknowledge his sense of its impropriety in a form which I sent him. He had one hour to consider of this proposition; he declined to do as he was required, and he was in consequence put in arrest.

• ‘ I sent by this post all the papers, and a statement of the case to the Adjutant General. Since I arrived here a gentleman has come on the part of ———, to say that he was willing to withdraw his letter. I desired him to inform ——— that he was now in arrest; that he had had an opportunity of withdrawing his letter and acknowledging his error, which he had not taken, and therefore that all he

had to say upon the subject must go to the Commander in Chief.

‘ I shall be able to make an arrangement of the garrison, which will preclude the necessity of hurrying the inhabitants out of the outer fort.

‘ Dhoondiah has got possession of Savanore, and I must lose no time in getting to the river. I believe I must alter my plan, and cross it at Hurryhur, or even at Hoonelly, rather than at Oollall; as whilst I am on my road to the northward he may cross the Werdah, enter and plunder Bednore, before I can get over the Toombuddra to stop him. My plan now must be to cross the Toombuddra at Hurryhur, and to move up by the route marked in Little’s map to Deogerry, and across the Werdah upon Savanore. It will still be possible to cross my brinjaries, &c., at Oollall, as after the river is full I shall not apprehend for their safety on this side of it; and from Savanore I shall always have it in my power to protect their passage of the river and their junction with me.

‘ There is a man here by name Govind Rao, who I think would be very useful to me, and I have requested him to prepare to accompany me with his fifty horse and some of his peons.

‘ He is afraid that Purneah will not be pleased at his coming, and I shall therefore be obliged to you if you will speak to Purneah upon the subject. As I shall receive your answer to this letter before I shall be far from hence, if there should be any inconvenience in his being removed from Chittdroog I will send him back immediately.

‘ I have got a cock and bull story from ——— about the amildar of Chandergooty having promised Dhoondiah to deliver up that fort, and a correspondence between Dhoondiah and Raddamy Vissnapah, a commander of 2000 horse in the Rajah’s service. This I take to be our friend the Pundit in the Bullum country. There is likewise another story of the same kind about an attempt to be made by three men to murder Purneah. From all which I judge that our friend ——— has got hold of his old intelligences, and that the sooner I join him the better.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ **ARTHUR WELLESLEY.**

‘ I hope General Brathwaite will not order a Court Martial upon —— till my hands are less full of business. I have hinted this in my letter, and I shall be glad if you will give him a line upon the subject. In that case —— shall cool his heels or his head at Chittledroog till the campaign is over.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Chittledroog, 9th June, 1800.

‘ Between the officers on the one hand, and the amildars on the other, you and I have much trouble. I have given out an order which I hope will prevent matters from going wrong in future, as they have hitherto, and in which I have endeavored to interest the seniors and those who are likely to travel.

‘ The behavior of the amildar at Sera was ridiculously rude to the officers by all accounts; however, the lecture to him will doubtless have its effect.

‘ I expect to march from hence on the day after to-morrow; I wait only to see some of the brinjarries.

‘ I got on well in every respect, and I have anxiety only about money. Has Munro given no answer to Webbe’s letter from Seringapatam, to desire him to send to Nuggur all he had?

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Chittledroog, 10th June, 1800.

‘ I am afraid that there is some mistake regarding the duties. I hear that they still continue to levy them in the country; and 1000 grain merchants, not brinjarries, coming to our camp, were stopped, and are now detained near Paughur. No brinjarries in yet, and I wait only for them.

‘ The collection of gram in this country also by the Paymaster, contrary to orders, is a sad grievance and difficulty; but I hope to get over it all by perseverance.

‘ I am very anxious to be across the river. It turns out now (at least so Govind Rao says) that Dhoondiah is not at

Savanore, but gone towards Noolgoond, which I acknowledge I think most probable.

Believe me, &c.

Lieut. Colonel Close.

ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

MY DEAR COLONEL, Camp at Chittledroog, 11th June, 1800.

I have received your letter of the 8th; and you will have perceived by mine of the same date what steps I have taken with ———. He is in arrest, and all the papers upon the subject, among others Colonel Stevenson's opinion, are gone before the Commander in Chief. I have heard from Cuppage regarding his success against his neighbouring Musselmén.

I have the power of ordering a General Court Martial, and I will order one if you think it will answer, which can try all fellows of this kind found in correspondence with a man against whom there is at present an army in the field.

Two or three questions occur to me upon this occasion, upon which I beg to have your opinion.

Is the Court Martial to be composed of European or Native officers? If of Native officers, which is the most regular composition, when Natives are to be tried, it is to be feared that they will not pass the sentence which the criminals deserve, and the expectation of which alone induces us to wish for a trial by a General Court Martial. They will not pass this sentence certainly, if they have not the assistance of a very good judge advocate; and the question is, is there a person in the Nundydroog district, or one who could be sent there at present properly qualified for this service? Cuppage I believe is; but it may be doubted whether it will be proper that he should act in that situation. I believe there are a sufficient number of Native officers in the Nundydroog district to compose a General Court Martial.

If all these objections to a native Court Martial operate to create a preference for one composed of European officers, it will be necessary that the criminals should be removed to Seringapatam, or to the army, to be tried, as there are not a sufficient number of officers in any other part of Mysore to compose one. There must besides be a good judge advo-

cate; and, I think, I shall find no difficulty in procuring one at Seringapatam.

‘The inconvenience to be apprehended from the removal of the prisoners either to *Seringapatam*, or to the army, is, that their punishment will not be so speedy as it ought, or so notorious as might be wished in the country in which they have resided hitherto, and in which they have all their relations, friends, and accomplices.

‘I have written to the officer commanding in Soonda to desire him to drive that party out of Budnaghur if possible.

‘It will not answer to put either of the battalions coming through that district out of their road for a trifling object of that kind, more particularly as it is in the power of the troops destined to remain there to perform this operation.

‘I have received a letter from Mr. Gordon, in which he mentions that Macleod has in hand one lac of Behaudry pagodas, which he will give us if he receives orders, and a guard is sent for it. I have ordered the guard to be sent forthwith from Seringapatam; and I shall be obliged to you if you will write to Macleod that the money may be given to Mr. Gordon's people, who will go for it. I march to-morrow.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘*Licut. Colonel Close.*

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘I have heard that another party of people are stopped near Paughur for duties.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Licut. Colmel Close.

‘Camp, four miles west of Burumsagur,
13th June, 1800.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘The brinjaries came to me at Chittledroog, and I gave them dresses, turbans, &c. &c.

‘I have ordered the guard from Seringapatam into the Coimbatore country for the cash, in order to lose no time; and I have desired the gentlemen at Seringapatam to apprise Macleod of this arrangement, and to desire him to send a person to meet this guard in the Guzzlehutty Pass, who will conduct them to the place where they are to receive the treasure. There will be no European officer with this guard.

‘I shall be obliged to you if you will give Macleod a line upon this subject. Macleod’s account of his warfare is excellent.

‘I had received the accounts of the discontinuance of the bombardment of Jemalabad, and had given orders that measures should be taken for its immediate renewal. I believe, however, that the 75th have gone back to Mangalore, and that only a sufficient number of troops to ensure the blockade of Jemalabad have been left there. That need not prevent the renewal of the bombardment as soon as all matters shall be prepared for it.

‘I conclude, from the extract from Lieut. Colonel Mignan’s letter to Major Munro, that it is not necessary that grain should be stored in any of the forts in Canara; but I will inquire more particularly into this subject.

‘Some time ago I wrote to Government and forwarded a proposition from Lieut. Colonel Mignan, that he should be permitted to destroy a number of forts which are on the sea-coast in Canara, which contained stores of different kinds, and which he could not afford troops to guard; I gave him orders to destroy the stores at all events, which could not be deserving of our attention, and it might have been unpleasant if they had fallen into the hands of even the well-affected inhabitants of Canara.

‘Government have answered Colonel Mignan’s proposition in a letter which I received last night, of which the enclosed is an extract; and I shall be obliged to you if you will ascertain from Major Munro his means of occupying any of the posts in question.

‘Most of them are upon the sea-coast; and, in my opinion, there can be no doubt whatever of the propriety of destroying them; but Government are right to ask for all kind of information upon the subject, and in the meantime they must be guarded by somebody.

‘The same letter contained a paragraph from Government regarding the disaffected in Mysore, and in the Company’s territories, and an authority to try them by military process.

‘This authority is certainly entirely distinct from that which I hold by General Braithwaite’s warrant, and which was in my contemplation when I wrote to you on this subject

on the 11th instant. Under this authority from Government it might perhaps be possible to take the whole matter upon myself, having a report made to me in some kind of form of the true state of the case. But it appears to me that the best mode of proceeding under this authority will be to adhere, as nearly as the nature of the case will admit, to the forms of General Courts Martial, and under that notion I have framed the warrants, instructions, &c. &c., which are enclosed in a letter to Major Cuppage. These papers I beg you will peruse, and if you approve of every thing they contain, I beg that you will forward them to Major Cuppage, and desire him to put the orders they bring into execution. You will easily perceive the difference in the warrant and in the other papers from those usually given for a General Court Martial; they are such only as are required by the nature of the case, and the only material one is in the number of members which will be assembled. All that can be said upon that is, that it is the largest number which can be assembled with convenience; and that, in fact, it is as equal to all purposes of justice as if it were larger.

‘I hope that Lady Clive will stay some time at Bangalore. Desire Brown to give me timely notice of her departure, as it is absolutely necessary that I should have an officer of intelligence there during the time that I may be in the field.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘Upon considering the warrant and instructions enclosed to Major Cuppage, I am afraid that the officers will have some scruple of proceeding to trial on account of the deficiency of their numbers, &c. &c.: and that they will scruple about sentencing death, as they will not have the number of members competent to pronounce it. But if you write to Cuppage upon the subject, I shall be obliged to you if you will desire him to quiet them by assuring the officers that in case of any irregularity in their sentence the responsibility for it will rest upon me, who must confirm it, and must order it to be carried into execution.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘Camp at Hurryhur, 16th June, 1800.

‘I have received your two letters of the 12th. Captain Barclay wrote to Major Cuppage an opinion which I delivered, in case there was any evidence against the man in question. It has since appeared that there is; but, for many reasons, I should prefer his being tried.

‘I send what you say respecting Mr. Ward of the 25th dragoons to Major Blaquiere, who will make inquiries into the circumstance. It is extraordinary that the bazaar man should not have gone to Major Blaquiere, or to Captain Brown, to make his complaint, at the moment when cause for it was given.

‘I have likewise received your letter of the 13th. I desired Lieut. Colonel Maclean to communicate my letter to Captain Kirkpatrick and to Lieut. Colonel Dalrymple. This fully explained my wishes and my own plans as far as was practicable at the moment; I shall, however, write to Captain Kirkpatrick upon the subject.

‘I enclose you a letter from Lieut. Colonel Palmer, which I received this morning, and which I shall be obliged to you if you will return to me deciphered. I beg also that you will send me a key of the cipher. The postscript of the letter is very satisfactory.

‘The river is come down, and I shall be obliged to cross every thing in boats. Of these there are scarcely any, and no materials here; notwithstanding that nearly two months have elapsed since you and I spoke particularly to Purneah upon the subject, and explained to him the necessity of having boats at this place, at Hoonelly, and Hooly Honore. I besides desired Colonel Pater to give his attention to this object: but he says that he never could prevail upon the amildar to do any thing in the business. This inattention in the amildar is a most serious inconvenience at the present moment, and may be attended with very unpleasant consequences.

‘I have to complain of him upon another subject. The fort of Arnee is about six miles from hence, and the Bhow's killadar of it the brother of the peshwah of Hurryhur. The two places were in constant communication. He allows

this killadar to evacuate the fort, without giving any notice of this intention to Colonel Pater, who was within six miles of him; when it was evacuated he apprized me of it, and, as I was at the distance of sixteen miles from hence, I could not send people to take possession. I wrote to him, however, by express, and begged that he would send over some people to keep possession till I came up; this he omitted. Dhoondiah's people are in the fort, and I must now take it by force. I cannot impute treachery to him, but he certainly wants ability, and zeal, and activity, and, therefore, ought not now to be at this important station.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close,’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘Camp at Hurryhur, 16th June, 1800.’

‘Since I wrote to you this morning, I have received a letter from Captain Kirkpatrick, in which he encloses sunnuds to all the Nizam's sirdars in this part of the country, and another from Colonel Maclean. The latter informs me that he has not been joined by Saddoolah Khan, but that he has with him 1000 horse. His two corps are about 1400 men with eight guns. Saddoolah Khan is at Copaul or at Bellary. The Kistna and Toombuddra are both full; Colonel Maclean is employed in crossing the former, but he does not know whether Saddoolah Khan is in the Dooab or not.

‘I have written to him to desire that he will endeavour to communicate with Saddoolah Khan immediately, and form a junction with him. If he should be at Copaul that will not be difficult, consistently with a compliance with the wish I expressed in my letter of the 6th, that the detachment should move up the Dooab towards the frontier. If he should be at Bellary, and should not yet have commenced to cross the Toombuddra, it is not reasonable to expect any co-operation from him immediately, and I have, therefore, left it to Colonel Maclean to move forward to the frontier or not, according as he may think it safe, from the intelligence which he will receive, apprizing me of his situation. At the same time I have asked Heshmut Jung for the grenadiers

and the cavalry from Hyderabad, which I expect will be well forward before I am across the Werdah.

‘ One Goa battalion joined me this day, the other was not to leave Hullihall, I believe, till the 8th, and probably later.

‘ I have got a battalion and four guns and a regiment of cavalry across the river. This day some fellows showed themselves in our front in the old way, but went off immediately.

‘ Ball Kishen Punt was expected this night, and I hope I shall see him to-morrow. My idea is to give him charge, and to make him put tannahs in those forts, &c., which I may not think it absolutely necessary for our own safety to keep in our own hands. I looked at Arnee this morning, and I intend to attack that fort, or Rannee Bednore, as soon as I shall have had a conference, and shall have made my arrangements with Ball Kishen.

‘ By the bye, I forgot to mention to you that Grant has informed me that duties are levied upon gram coming to Seringapatam. Was there any thing settled upon that subject lately?

‘ I propose to send a letter to Saddoolah Khan in the morning, to desire him to join Lieut. Colonel Maclean as soon as he can.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Hurryhur, 18th June, 1800.

‘ I have been more concerned than I can express at the receipt of your letter of the 15th. The misconduct of these gentlemen undoubtedly gives you, as well as me, a great deal of trouble; but I declare that it gives me more anxiety than any thing in which I have any concern.

‘ If I had heard of the circumstance which you mentioned to me at Seringapatam previous to the appointment of the gentleman in question to his command, he certainly never should have been appointed; and he never should have gone to it, if, in the conversation which I had with him at Naganunglum, he had not expressed himself much like a gentle-

man, and stated a determination to adhere to what had been settled by ————. I acquainted him with every circumstance which you told me, and at the same time informed him of my determination to remove him from his command, if I should hear the smallest complaint of his dubash. He promised that he would not have one; and I acknowledge I little expected to hear that there were grounds of complaints still stronger than they would have been if the dubash had been at ————.

‘He is a gentleman, a man of the world, and one who appears to look to his character. I write to him by this post, and you may depend upon it that he must either act as he ought, or he shall be removed from his command.

‘I acknowledge that, both as an officer and as a gentleman, I should be glad to see all those commands abolished; nothing can be more prejudicial to discipline, and nothing more disgraceful to the character and feelings of a gentleman, than what goes on almost daily; but, as long as they are even more than tolerated by Government, it is difficult for any man in a subordinate situation to draw a line, and these kind of unpleasant circumstances must certainly arise: but from what you say, I hope ere long to see some arrangement made which will really abolish the whole.

‘The disputes between the officers and the amildars are equally irksome, and, I believe, owe their origin to the same circumstance. There is not, at this moment, a post by which I do not receive letters of complaint from some man or other. To enter into a detailed inquiry upon the subject is impossible, and to decide without inquiry would be unjust, and one is, therefore, reduced to an impotent expostulation to be upon good terms with the officers of the Rajah’s Government. We have never been hitherto accustomed to a native Government, we cannot readily bear the disappointments and delays which are usual in all their transactions, prejudices are entertained against them, and all their actions are misconstrued, and we mistrust them. I see instances of this daily in the best of our officers, and I cannot but acknowledge that, from the delays of the natives, they have sometimes reason to complain; but they have none to ill-use any man.

‘The river has risen, and we get on but slowly. I have not yet got over another regiment of cavalry. I expect some boats in the course of this night or to-morrow from Hoonelly.

‘About 300 horse appeared in our front yesterday, but went off immediately after Pater opened his guns upon them.

‘Ball Kishen Punt arrived yesterday, and I had a long conversation with him. He told me that Appah Saheb and Goklah were pressed for money, and had gone towards Kittoor to procure some from the polygar; but they would doubtless advance upon Dhoondiah in co-operation with me, as soon as I should be prepared to move from the river. He said that, as we advanced, we should find plenty of grain, forage, &c., and that there was not a fort in the possession of Dhoondiah, Dummul excepted, into which we should not walk with the greatest ease. He was rather solicitous to know our object. I told him that we had none excepting to get the better of Dhoondiah, of whom we saw clearly that, as long as he existed and had power, the Company’s territories would never be in tranquillity. I desired him to prepare to co-operate with us, and to cross the river with me. He has here about 300 or 400 horse.

‘Dhoondiah is still at Savanore with the largest part of his force; there are some troops on this side of the river Werdah, but I do not know what number, and I am not quite certain that the Werdah has filled.

As soon as I find out the general number of troops on this side, and if the Werdah fills, I intend to advance Stevenson with the cavalry, and a corps of infantry, guns, &c., and hunt out every thing on this side of that river. I have desired Ball Kishen Punt to be prepared to throw people into Rannee Bednore when we shall get possession of it.

‘I enclose a copy of a proclamation which I propose to issue. Ball Kishen Punt has seen it, and approves of it, and has even altered some of Ogg’s bad Marhatta phraseology.

‘I have just had one of Pater’s men with me, who swears that Dhoondiah, with his whole army, is on this side of the Werdah; that all his sirdars have sworn to conquer or die; that Purneah, Bishnoo Punt, Kistnapah, Ram Rao, Kistna

Rao, and all the amildars, mutaseddees, &c. of the Rajah's government, and all the musselmenn, are on his side, and that he is determined that his victorious standard shall fly on Seringapatam. I have recommended to Pater to confine this fellow, at all events till we are stronger, on the other side of the river; whether for knavery or folly will be decided hereafter.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Hurryhur, 20th June, 1800.

‘ I send you an affidavit taken by a brinjarry, regarding duties taken from him at Chindgerry. I made him swear to his story, in order that there might be no mistake about the matter.

‘ I have also the pleasure of enclosing you an extract of a letter, which I have received this morning, from ———, from which I judge, either that Ram Rao misunderstood what passed, or that it has been misrepresented. It is very desirable that the matter should be sifted to the bottom. I hope, however, from your last letter, that some general arrangement will be made which will wipe off at once and entirely all these commands.

‘ We are getting on by degrees. All the cavalry are across the river, and every thing belonging to them. The Europeans, and every thing belonging to them, will be across early to-morrow, and I think every thing will be clear over in a few days.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to the Right Hon. Lord Clive, Governor of Fort St. George.

‘ MY LORD, ‘ Camp at Hurryhur, 20th June, 1800.

‘ I have received the honor of your Lordship's letter of the 14th instant, in which you desire to have my opinion regarding the extent of the military force which will be necessary for the new territory which your Lordship informs me will be assigned by the Nizam to the exclusive management of the Company for Mysore, Malabar, Canara, and Goa. It is

difficult to give an opinion regarding the new territory, of which I have but little knowledge, but as your Lordship has desired it, I shall proceed to state what has occurred to me upon the subject.

‘The question which your Lordship has put to me involves considerations affecting the whole of our military system in this country. When the country proposed to be ceded to the Company is likewise to be defended, its inhabitants to be kept in tranquillity, and its revenue to be realized by means of the troops, it is impossible to expect to be able to effect these objects on the system of weak and dispersed garrisons, on which we have been acting hitherto. This must be changed; neither the new territory nor the old can be kept in awe by troops dispersed in forts, which they cannot quit with safety; and, therefore, the system which I should recommend would be to garrison those posts only which are absolutely necessary to us, and to have at all times in the field, and in motion, two or three regiments of Europeans, all the cavalry, and as large a body of native infantry as can be got together. This will be a real security, not only to the new territory and to Mysore, but to the Carnatic, Malabar, and Canara, and nothing else ever will. It will appear more clearly that this system is necessary in the new territory, when the nature of its inhabitants, and the governments to which they have been accustomed, are considered.

‘The whole of the country to be ceded by the Nizam is inhabited by petty rajahs and polygars, who have never been entirely subdued, and have never submitted to the species of government which must be exercised by the Company’s servants. They have been accustomed either to the rapacity and corruption of Tippoo’s government, or to the weakness of the Nizam’s; but they are entirely unacquainted with the restraint of a regular authority, constructed upon the principles adopted by the Company’s Government. This they will resist, and they must be kept in awe, particularly at first, by a large and an active force. For this purpose troops in garrison will never answer; and supposing that your Lordship should adopt the system I propose for having, at least for some time, a large detachment in the field, I shall proceed to estimate the number of troops which will be necessary in the garrisons which ought to be occupied.

‘The number of troops in Malabar is two companies of artillery, one regiment of European infantry, three battalions of the Company’s sepoys, three battalions of sebundies, and three of Travancore troops.

‘The civil government of Malabar is now conducted upon such a system, that it is impossible to recommend that this force should be weakened; a partial alteration in any part of the civil or military government will not answer. Hereafter, when there shall have been time to settle that country, it may be practicable to diminish that force considerably. In Canara there are one company of artillery, one regiment of Europeans, and four battalions of the Company’s sepoys; none of these battalions are complete; two of them are of the new 18th regiment; and since the loss of Jemalabad, I have been obliged to add to this force the flank companies of the native corps which were at Goa. I do not think it would be proper to diminish it at present.

‘The violence of the monsoon in Malabar and Canara, which prevents the troops from keeping the field, will at all times operate as a reason for keeping more troops in the garrisons which may be in those countries, than would otherwise be necessary. The circumstance which made it desirable that there should be a British force at Goa no longer existing, the troops might perhaps be withdrawn entirely from thence for the present, or Goa might be made a station for one native battalion. If that arrangement should take place, there will be required below the ghauts—

	Companies of Artillery.		European Regt.		B. Sepoys.		Sebundies.		Travancore Regt.
In Malabar	.. 2	..	1	..	3	..	3	..	3
In Canara	.. 1	..	1	..	4	..		..
At Goa	..	..		..	1	..		..
	<hr/>			<hr/>			<hr/>		
	3			2			8		
							3		
							3		

‘As long as any of the inhabitants are suffered to remain in Seringapatam, there ought not to be a smaller body of troops there than there are there at this moment; but if the inhabitants were removed to the pettah, a very small garrison would keep it, excepting at the time when an attack upon it might be expected. As, however, the removal of the inhabitants must be a work of time, I shall estimate the garrison of Seringapatam at its present strength: two companies

of artillery, one regiment of Europeans, two battalions of native infantry.

‘There ought to be at Chittledroog at least one company of artillery, and two battalions of native infantry. The province of Bednore will require one battalion of native infantry, and the province of Soonda at least another. There ought likewise to be a battalion in the Nundydroog district. As Paughur is upon the frontier of the territory to be ceded to the Company, it may not perhaps be necessary that there should be a battalion there.

‘Thus the troops necessary for garrisons only in the Mysore country will be three companies of artillery, one regiment of Europeans, and seven battalions of native infantry; but if it should be necessary to have a garrison in the Paughur district, another battalion will be required. Excepting at Chittledroog, where I have left only one battalion, and at Paughur, where there are 200 men, I have been obliged to leave troops in the garrisons, as I have above estimated them. In the new territory there ought to be a battalion between Harponelly and Anagoondy, as those places are immediately upon the Marhatta frontier; one at Adoni; one, at least, at Gooty; one at Kurnool; one at Cuddapa, and one at Gurrumconda. Every other post or strong hold in the newly ceded territories, and those in Mysore, not occupied by the Honorable Company’s troops, or those of the Rajah of Mysore, ought to be immediately destroyed, and particularly their means of affording water ought to be entirely annihilated. Thus the whole body of troops which will be required only as garrisons, should your Lordship determine to accept the plan of having a strong detachment in the field, will be as follows:—

	Companies of Artillery.	European Regt.	B. Sepoys.	Sebundies.	Travancore Regt.
Malabar	.. 2	.. 1	.. 3	.. 3	.. 3
Canara	.. 1	.. 1	1	..	..
Goa	.. ..	..	1	..	..
Mysore	.. 3	..	7	..	..
New territory	..	..	6	..	..
	6	3	21	3	3

‘It must however be very clear to your Lordship that nothing can be more weak than this distribution, if it is not .

strengthened and connected by means of a detachment in the field; and that if you do not adopt this system, the garrisons must be considerably strengthened.

‘Supposing that your Lordship should adopt it, and that you will have for the detachments in the field three regiments of native cavalry, three of European infantry, and eight battalions of native infantry, and two companies of artillery, I proceed to state what number of troops will be wanting, in order to make the number under my command (including those at Goa) sufficient.

	Companies of Artillery.	European Regt.	B. Sepoys.	Sebundies.	Travancore Regt.	Native Cavalry				
Wanting for gar- risons as above }	6	..	3	..	21	..	3	..	3	..
Wanting for the field }	2	..	3	..	6	..	..	..	..	3
	8	6	27	3	3	3				

‘Under my command at present—

	Companies of Artillery	European Regt.	B. Sepoys.	Sebundies.	Travancore Regt.	Native Cavalry,
Bengal Artillery	2	..	..	..	..	..
Coast Artillery	3	..	..	..	..	..
Bombay Artillery	3	..	..	..	..	..
On the Bombay Establishment }	..	3	..	11	..	3
On the Coast Es- tablishment }		3	..	7	..	..
	8	6	18	3	3	3

‘The deficiency of troops will be nine battalions of native infantry.

‘I have the honor to be, &c.

‘Right Hon. Lord Clive,

Governor of Fort St. George.

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Camp, left bank of the Toombuddra,
opposite Hurryhur, 22nd June, 1800.

‘I have not heard from Lieut. Colonel Maclean yet, but I sent him a duplicate of my letter, and orders to join himself to Saddoolah Khan, by two messengers of his own, some days ago.

‘I am glad that you approve of the manner of the Gene-
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ral Court Martial. I sent orders into Canara to try by military process all criminals of the same description.

'The second Bombay battalion is not yet arrived, and I felt some little anxiety about it, as it has been reported to me that all the cavalry on this side of the Werdah are gone towards Shikarpoor and Ondagurry to interrupt its junction with me. They amount to about 700 men. I have sent Stevenson that way with two regiments of cavalry and their guns, and they will give a good account of the fellows, who, I now understand, instead of looking after this battalion, are employed in plundering the country.

'Ram Rao's cavalry are at Shikarpoor, and I have written to Servitun Rao to request that they may be ordered to join themselves with the Bombay battalion, and may come with them as far as Hoonelly.

'From a parcel of blunders and surmises, and unnecessary precaution in the gentleman in Soonda, &c., this battalion, which left Goa on the 28th of last month, had not marched from Hullahall on the 12th of this, and I do not think it was likely to march till the 15th. It had not reached Chandergooty on the 20th.

'Dhoondiah has certainly left Savanore, and he is, I believe, gone to Hoobly Darwar.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL, Camp, left bank of the Toombuddra,
23rd June 1800.

'I have crossed nearly every thing, and if the 25th dragoons were arrived, and the Bombay battalion in safety, I might advance to-morrow. I have nearly 4000 full brinjaries, and the quantity I before told you I should have in the gram department; there are besides quantities of other brinjaries coming on. The difficulty will be to make them cross the river and move on, and upon this subject I trouble you with a few lines.

'I had some thought of leaving an officer here, who should take charge of every thing that might come forward for the troops, and who should send them across the river and on

towards us; but the scarcity of officers with the corps, the difficulty of finding one qualified for the service, and the probability that there would be, as usual, a jarring between him and the Rajah's officers, have determined me not to adopt that plan, from which I could expect nothing but failure. It remains then that I must rely upon the exertions of the amildar at Hurryhur.

'The man who is here at present is, I believe, honest and willing; but he is totally incapable of understanding any arrangement, or of making any exertion to carry it into execution. Accounts have arrived of his mother's death, and he is confined to his house, and all business with him is at a stand.

'It is therefore absolutely necessary that some person should be sent here on whose abilities and exertions some dependence can be placed, and from what I have seen of all those in this part of the country, I see no man so fit for the charge as Servitun Rao. Purneah, however, is the best judge; and all I can say upon the subject is, that it is essentially necessary to the troops that it should be a person of intelligence and activity.

'To enter into complaints at present of their general inactivity, and of their disobedience of all the orders which I believe they have received from Purneah and from you, is useless. All that I can say about it is, that they certainly want a little looking after in this part of the country; and I think it probable that when you come this way you will find some changes necessary.

'I think it probable that I shall not march from hence till the 27th or 28th.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL,

'Camp, left bank of the Toombuddra,
25th June, 1800.

'I have received your letters of the 21st and 22nd, and I am glad to find that there is a prospect that the Court Martial will go on. It does not appear to me that nine members are necessary.

‘The court is one held under a civil authority, and is therefore the civil court, in which the forms usual in military courts are to be observed, and which is composed of military men; but it is not necessary that it should be composed of the number of members required by the articles of war: provided that the forms of a military process are observed as required by Government, it is a matter of indifference what number of judges there may be.

‘If there should be any further difficulty upon the subject, I must proceed by a court of inquiry, and give orders that the criminals shall be executed after the facts shall have been clearly ascertained by an examination of witnesses on each side.

‘I heard from Nuggur this morning; Ram Rao only received his orders to join me on the 23rd. Major Munro had not received any directions about the money, and even if he had, he did not think that the garrison of Cundapoor could afford an escort for it. Major Browne was about to send one from Nuggur, in order to lose no time. Upon examining the true state of the case regarding the brinjaries, I find that I have not so many of them in camp as I ought to have. Many of their bullocks are behind and at a distance. They complain much of impediments, such as that they are detained by demands of duties, &c., and that the amildars have got the greatest part of the rice of the country in their hands, which they are unwilling to part with at present, as they have reason to expect that the price of it will rise. It besides appears that the accounts of the number of their bullocks are very erroneous, and that they are counted over in three or four tandahs. I believe, however, that I shall be able to move from hence with a stock sufficient to last till I shall have cleared out every thing on this side of the Werdah; but it will not be safe to cross the Werdah till I have a certainty of a larger quantity of supplies.

‘No tidings yet of the Bombay battalion, excepting that they had not marched on the 15th. The officer commanding in Soonda complains sadly of Major Munro’s people, who absolutely refuse to give the smallest assistance in forwarding the equipments of this corps. Their demand cannot be very heavy, at least if they have not much more baggage than their friends, who arrived some days ago. They had

literally nothing, excepting what was carried by twenty-four bullocks, and about fifty coolies: and the private baggage of all the officers goes upon sixteen bullocks.

‘ From intelligence received in a private letter from Colonel Dalrymple of the 9th, I was in hopes that the grenadiers and the cavalry would have joined Lieut. Colonel Maclean, but I now find they are not. If Lieut. Colonel Maclean is joined by Saddoolah Khan, which I hope he will, it will still do; if not he will, I am afraid, be too weak.

‘ I have not yet heard either from Saddoolah Khan or from Lieut. Colonel Maclean, in answer even to my letter of the 6th; but as soon as I had reason to believe that the grenadiers and the cavalry would join him, I wrote to the latter to desire that he would move up towards Copaul.

‘ Ball Kishen Bhow thinks that Dhoondiah will fly to the Dooab. I received from Goklah a letter, of which a copy was sent to you by Captain Greenlay from Hullahall; the person who brought it is not yet arrived, and I believe will come with the Bombay battalion.

‘ Stevenson has had some successes towards the frontier, but has not taken possession of Massoor, a strong fort about three coss from Shikarpoor. He has, however, driven to the northward all the cavalry, which were hanging thereabouts for the purpose of annoying the Bombay battalion. I have desired Servitun Rao to send his cavalry to join them; and, indeed, I think that that cavalry might be useful at this place in bringing forward our convoys, if I should not be able entirely to clear this side of the Werdah of all the enemy’s horse.

‘ I shall be able to ascertain this in a few days, and will acquaint Ram Rao, if I should find it necessary to call for the assistance of his cavalry.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ I enclose a letter which I have just received from the officer at Sera. I have desired Barclay to acquaint the young man that the wholesale price of sheep, as stated in the orders, is three for a pagoda; that of course, when retailed in the bazaar, they must be dearer. When you go that way you will be able to see how these matters stand at Sera.

When I was there they complained that literally the amildar would not allow their servants to buy butter, bread, or milk, in the bazaar. They did not mention this to me, but to some of their friends, and talked of the behaviour of this man as a tyranny which it was quite painful to be obliged to submit to.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

MY DEAR COLONEL,

Camp, left bank of the Toombuddra,
26th June, 1800.

I enclose copies of letters which I have received from Appah Sahib and Goklah.

Goklah's vakcel arrived last night, and I had this morning an interview with him. He said that his master had received orders to attack and crush Dhoondiah; that he was then at Moorgoor, on the other side of the Malpoorba, with 10,000 horse, 5000 infantry, and eight guns; that he wished to be joined by three of our Bombay battalions, which he said he heard were coming from Goa, and that he would then advance and destroy Dhoondiah without loss of time. I told him that it was impossible to detach to him the battalions in question, as they were either in this camp, or on the road to join me, and probably very close. It appeared to me, however, that if he had the force which he said he had, he would have no difficulty, and would incur no risk in crossing the Malpoorba, and approaching Dhoondiah's force at the time when I should cross the Werdah, and approach him from this side. In this the vakcel acquiesced, and promised that when I should give him notice that I was going to cross the Werdah, Goklah would cross the Malpoorba, for which he would make all the arrangements immediately, and that when I should be at Savanore he would be at Darwar. He then began a long story about his differences with Appah Sahib; said that Appah Sahib had not received orders from Poonah to attack Dhoondiah, and that I might depend upon it he neither could nor would make any effort towards a co-operation in my designs. I asked him whether, in case Appah Sahib should co-operate to destroy Dhoondiah, it would at all affect the intended co-operation of his master? He said not in the least; that to put down Dhoondiah was the first object and the most urgent; and that after

that was effected, it would not be difficult for Goklah to put in execution his own designs, and the orders which he had and might hereafter receive from Poonah regarding Appah Saheb.

‘It appeared to me to be very desirable to ascertain from this vakeel, to whom the administration of this country belonged, whether his master had any claim to it; and whether he was likely to be dissatisfied in consequence of the arrangements which I had made, and according to which I propose to act, viz. to hand over to Ball Kishen Bhow all the forts which should fall into our hands, and to give over the country to his management. Questions were put to him leading to these points, and he said that the administration of the country belonged to the family of Pursheram Bhow, that his master had no claim to it, and that the arrangement which had been made was perfectly satisfactory to him, and by no means likely to affect his intended co-operation. He added, that when Dhoondiah should be driven out, if we remain neuter, he should have no difficulty in getting possession of the country, if he should be so ordered from Poonah.

‘Upon the whole the conversation with this man was very satisfactory, and proved three things clearly; first, that Goklah is very desirous, and will co-operate with us in the attack upon Dhoondiah; secondly, that although at enmity with Appah Saheb, his co-operation will have no effect upon him; thirdly, that he will be perfectly satisfied with the arrangement made, and proposed to give over the country to the management of Appah Saheb and his dewan.

‘The difference between Appah Saheb and Goklah seems to be more like one originating at Poonah than any thing personal between the parties: the vakeel said that orders had been received to sequester a part of his (Appah Saheb’s) country, which he said was a secret. At all events he said that the obedience to that order would be deferred till Dhoondiah should be driven out of the country.

‘I march to-morrow to Rannee Bednore. I have just received your letter regarding Lieut. Mackay’s bullock mutasaddi; and he writes by this post to desire that he will keep the bullocks at grass at such place as may be most

convenient to the ryots, and by no means to interfere in the business of the country, or with their cultivation.

‘ I am quite confounded by the intelligence that we shall have no money from Captain Macleod; we shall really be quite aground in August if I do not get a lac of pagodas somewhere.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ Camp at Rannee Bednore,
28th June, 1800.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ I arrived here yesterday, and instantly attacked the fort with my piquets, and the 1st of the 1st. The garrison consisted of 500 men, who fired upon our cavalry as they approached, and the greatest part of them were put to death. We did not lose a man.

‘ Colonel Stevenson goes off to-morrow towards Mussoor and Shikarpoor to clear every thing down that way, and to bring up the Bombay battalion if it should have reached that quarter; by the time that he will return I hope that I shall have been joined by a sufficient number of brinjaries to enable me to go forward.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ Camp at Rannee Bednore,
29th June, 1800.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ I have received from Lieut. Colonel Maclean an answer to my letter of the 6th instant. dated the 15th; on that day he had **not** made much progress in crossing the Kistna, and he did not expect to be in readiness to advance from that river till the 1st of July. He proposed, however, to join Saddoolah Khan immediately, and to move up to Kanagherry. He expected that Colonel Bowser, with the cavalry and the flank companies, would march from Hyderabad, and he had received orders to have boats in readiness that these troops might pass the Kistna with ease; but

in case they should not have reached the river by the time that he should be prepared to advance from it, he did not propose to wait for them.

‘Lieut. Colonel Maclean says, that by all accounts Sadoolah Khan’s detachment is not half so strong as it is stated to be by Heshmut Jung; and, indeed, he says himself, in a note to Lieut. Colonel Maclean, that one-third at least of the stated numbers might be subtracted.

‘I received a letter from Lieut. Colonel Dalrymple yesterday, dated the 13th, in which he says that the march of the cavalry, and of the flank companies had been postponed: but it does not appear by his letter that it is determined that they should not come at all. I have therefore still hopes that they will come

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘Camp at Rannee Bednore,
30th June, 1800.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘I have received your letter of the 27th, and I beg that you will tell Purneah that I am much obliged to him for the readiness with which he has complied with my request regarding Servitun Rao. I hear that Ram Rao is arrived at Hurryhur; but the unfortunate death of the old lady at Benares has put a stop to all business, and I shall not see him for three or four days more. The passage of the river also has been a good deal obstructed since I left Hurryhur; but I write to Ram Rao this day upon the subject, and I hope that we shall get on better.

‘The road between this and Hurryhur is open; indeed I understand that Dhoondiah has not a man on this side of the Werdah. Stevenson is gone with some infantry, and the 2nd regiment of cavalry, to Mussoor, to possess himself of that post, and then I expect that I shall have cleared out every thing from this side of the river. Dhoondiah has been at Hoobly, where he made a composition for 10,000 rupees; he then went to Misserycotta, of which he had not got possession on the 28th. Goklah, it is said, had crossed the

Malpoorba, and was come forward to Jeygoor, with an intention of fighting; but this I doubt. After getting Misservy-cotta, I think Dhoondiah will either make a dash at Hulihall, which is about twelve coss distant, or he will move upon Goklah.

‘What a pity it is that I cannot move on for want of grain! My troops are in high health, order, and spirits; but the unfortunate defect of arrangement in the poor man at Chittledroog, previous to my arrival, has ruined every thing.

‘I had at one time nearly 4000 loads in camp; if I had been able to reach the river one day sooner I should have been across before it filled. The delay in crossing was one of about ten days; during that time we were feeding upon the brinjarries, as we did not draw a grain from the country, which reduced the full bags in camp to about 2000, and about as many more they say on the road. Then comes the delay in filling, travelling, passing the river, &c.; and it becomes absolutely impossible to say at what time we shall have a sufficiency to cross the Werdah, although all the brinjarries swear that there are large quantities of rice coming on to us.

‘All this delay would have been avoided, if, when I wrote on the 10th of May, measures had been taken to make them all fill, and to collect them together; but instead of that, until I wrote on the 5th of June to know what had been done, no steps were taken, and I was four days at Chittledroog before I could even see one of the naigs. How true it is that in military operations time is every thing!

‘The three troops of the 19th not having been ordered on is a mistake of ——— or ———. The former swears that the interpretation of his letter is, that the dragoons were to come on with the army to Chittledroog. I acknowledge that it might bear that meaning, but it is not so clear as all orders and arrangements ought to be, and as they are in general. I write to ——— upon the subject this day.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘I have just heard of some rice coming into camp from Shikarpoor.

'I hear from Bowser, on the 17th, that he was under orders to be in readiness to march with the cavalry and the flank companies.'

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

' MY DEAR COLONEL, ' Camp at Havery, 4th July, 1800.

‘ I send you two papers regarding traitors, which I have received from Grant.

' I have heard no more of Goklah since yesterday.

‘ Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

' MY DEAR COLONEL,

' Camp on the right bank of the Werdah,
6th July, 1809.

‘ As I found that everything became settled towards our frontier, I have advanced here, and I am making my arrangements for crossing this river. The brinjarries come on by degrees, and I hear of some on the other side of the Toombuddra, who appear to wait only to be forced to advance.

Goklah has certainly been beat and killed, and the circumstances of the affair are nearly as I stated them to you in my last letter. The majority of his troops, however, I am informed are still together, and can be brought forward. I have written respecting them to Chintomeny Rao, and to Bappojee Scindiah, and I hope that I shall still derive some advantage from him.

‘No accounts yet of the Bombay battalion. It is said that Dhoondiah is at Kittoor.

‘I have received, from Colonel Cuppage, the proceedings of the Court Martial. Sheik Fereed is found guilty of treason, and is sentenced to be imprisoned to the end of the war! Hyder Beg is acquitted. I cannot approve of, although I have confirmed these sentences, and I have desired Colonel Cuppage to keep Hyder Beg in confinement.

‘In future I must proceed by a court of inquiry, which shall deliver an opinion whether the prisoner is guilty or not, as I find it is impossible to impress officers with an accurate

notion of the extent and consequences of the crime of treason, and of the punishment which it deserves and meets in all civilized societies.

‘ Believe me, &c.,

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ One of my people employed in Dhoondiah’s camp has sworn, in the most positive manner, that he saw Lingo Punt, Goklah’s vakeel, with Dhoondiah in the camp. If this is true, it may be the clue to the necessity of Goklah’s crossing the Malpoorba, which he certainly did a very short time after Lingo Punt left him. Lingo Punt has been the person employed between Dhoondiah and Goklah, and negotiated the delivery of the family of the former by the latter; and I do not doubt but that he was employed to try to negotiate with him before he came to me.

‘ Goklah, then, met with the fate which he deserved.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Camp, right bank of the Werdah,
8th July, 1800.

‘ I received your packet of the 4th last night. A man came to me some time ago, and made me an offer similar to that which has been made at Hyderabad. These arrangements answer well there; but I think them unbecoming in an officer at the head of a body of troops, and I, therefore, declined to have any thing more to do with the business than to hold out a general encouragement. The proposer said, that there was a sirdar at the head of a body of horse, to whom if I would give a cowle he would come away. I gave the cowle, but I do not expect, either that the sirdar will come off with his troops, or that the proposed deed will be put in execution. Government have authorized me to offer a reward for him, and I propose to avail myself of this authority as soon as he is at all pressed, and I find that his people begin to drop off from him. This will be, in my opinion, the fittest period.

‘ To offer a public reward by proclamation for a man’s life, and to make a secret bargain to have it taken away, are very different things: the one is to be done, the other.

in my opinion, cannot by an officer at the head of the troops.

‘ I have made my arrangements for crossing the river, and I hope that I shall have everything over in a day or two. I have made a bridge which answers perfectly for foot passengers, and will answer equally for horses and cattle, when I shall have given it rather a better footing. I propose to leave this bridge here, and a number of boats which I have besides. For the care of these and of everything which will come up, I shall establish a post immediately on the river side, and I am now constructing a redoubt for their security.

‘ As soon as this work gets tolerably forward, I shall seize Savanore, where I understand there are but few people at present. I do not intend to advance from Savanore until I shall hear that Bowser is tolerably forward, unless I should find it necessary, in order to prevent Dhoondiah from putting in execution any design, which might tend to give him more stability in the country, or in order to give assistance to our friends at Hullihall, if I find he presses them.

‘ I propose to stretch out towards Hangall and Budnaghur, in order to clear the Soonda frontier, if the report should be true which I hear, that the detachment sent against that place has failed in its attack. I can hardly believe it, however.

‘ I have heard nothing yet of the Bombay battalion, and I am much afraid that, for want of money, they did not march before the 30th, and that Dhoondiah’s position near them has prevented them from marching since that day. It is fortunate that I thought of ordering the provisions to be thrown into Hullihall in April. I understand that there was a sufficiency for two months for one battalion at the end of June.

‘ What do you think of taking this opportunity of making peace with Kistnapah Naig? The officers who were in his country say that he was well disposed to accept any reasonable terms; and, as our prospects of being able to reduce him are very remote, particularly if Heshmut Jung’s plan of increasing our territory is to be carried into execution, it appears desirable to come to a settlement with him on

almost any terms which he could point out, and for the observance of which he would give us security.

‘I write to Major Cuppage this day, and desire him to let me know what he wants at Nundydroog, and his wants shall be supplied as far as is possible. In the mean time, I desire Gordon to be prepared to answer a call for a store of rice there.

‘The brinjarries drop in by degrees, and I get a little from the country; but I have determined that no more brinjarry rice shall go into the bazaar; and I have adopted a plan for issuing gratis to the troops, and have reduced the consumption of the rice of which I have the command to fifty bags per diem. At this rate I have, on this side of the Toombuddra, at least fifty days’ stock; and my industrious followers must live either upon jowarry, of which there is an abundance everywhere, or they must be more industrious in procuring rice for themselves in a country which produces none, or their friends the brinjarries must come up more quickly. From Hangall, however, I expect to draw some rice, which is another reason for extending myself that way.

• Believe me, &c.

• *Lieut. Colonel Close,*

• ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘I have received the proceedings of a court of inquiry upon Mahommed Ismael, late Asoph of Chinreydroog, and I have given orders that he may be hanged, and his crime published in the district of Nundydroog. Binnillal Khan is to remain in confinement in Nundydroog.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

• MY DEAR COLONEL,

• Camp, left bank of the Werdah,
10th July, 1800.

‘I have received letters from Hullah up to the 5th of July. The circumstances of the defeat of Goklah are nearly as they have been already represented to you, and a great part of his army are under the walls of that fort. The 1st of the 4th are still there, having been detained for money till the end of June, and having then found it impracticable to move. Dhoondiah was encamped two days ago at Gurry, about 4 coss beyond Darwar. and it is said that he intended

to come this way, that he intended to attack Hullahall, and that he intended to move upon Noorgoond. I have got every thing over the river, excepting the 1st and 4th regiments of cavalry. My bridge answered for every thing, excepting for the followers of the cavalry. Horses, bandies, and even camels crossed without difficulty, but the followers rushed upon it in such numbers from both sides, and were so little subject to regulation, arrangement, or order, that they sunk several of the boats, and I have been obliged to take the bridge to pieces, before I could get over the two last regiments of cavalry.

‘ I was in hopes that, hearing nothing of Kistnapah Naig, it might have been possible to come to an arrangement with him ; but I see that it is not. Our good understanding with the Rajah of Koorg, which deprives him of the money which he used to get for defending Tippoo’s country from the Rajah’s plunderers, must be rather inconvenient to him, particularly as he always understood matters with the Rajah, and it was not necessary that he should incur any great expense on that account.

‘ I have not been over at Savanore yet, but it appears to be, and I hear it is, in a ruinous condition, and so large, that it will not be possible to do anything with it. We must, therefore, press to have Darwar, and Munro might at all events make his arrangements for sending grain to Hullahall. If matters should be settled previous to the time at which it will be possible to send up grain from Canara, Munro will be no loser, as he will sell it at a large price. I doubt whether the Peshwah will be willing, or, if willing, whether he will have it in his power to give over to us Darwar. If Dhoondiah is able to hold out at all, he will certainly receive support against us from the great body of Marhattas.

‘ Ram Rao has been with me, and he yesterday went back to Shikarpoor, having made arrangements for sending some peons into the country on the right bank of the Werdah. I do not believe that Servitun Rao is come to Hurryhur, or that he is likely to come there, but it would certainly be very desirable that either he or Ram Rao should be permanently stationed at that place. Probably the latter would be of most service, as I understand that he is the head amildar of Nuggur, Hurryhur. &c.

'All the grain which Purneah can collect for us ought to be sent to Hurryhur, from whence it will be forwarded with other grain from other parts.

'The people who had possession of Jemalabad found means to make their escape over the rock. They left in the upper fort four men of the 2nd of the 3rd Bombay regiment, being some of those who had been surprized there. These men they put in confinement on the day preceding the night in which it is supposed they escaped. Above fifty of them have been taken by parties sent in pursuit of them, aided by the people of the country; and Lieut. Colonel Mignan informs me, that he had still hopes that he should be able to take Jerim Naik the leader. He proposed to bring them all before a General Court Martial, and to hang those to whom death might be sentenced in different parts of the province.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

'I have no certain accounts about Budnaghur.'

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

MY DEAR COLONEL,

'Camp five miles south of Savanore,
11th July, 1800.

'I enclose you the copy of a letter which I have received from Lieut. Colonel Palmer. You will perceive the manner in which Appah Saheb stands at Poonah.

'I am afraid that, having given over the country to Ball Kishen Bhow may have the effect of setting the Peshwah, or at least Scindiah, against us, although I believe that this is not the country which has been sequestered, but it is that of Tasgaum and Meritch. I have written to Colonel Palmer a letter, the duplicate of which I enclose, and beg you will forward by tappall, in which I explain the reasons which induced me to give over the country to the Bhow, and the grounds which I have for believing that it is possible to remedy the evil if it is one.

'In truth the Bhow is but a bad manager, and is very unpopular in the country; but he has made no objections to the admission of Ram Rao's peons to whatever place I pleased. It will, therefore, be a matter of no difficulty to

make an arrangement to transfer the country to whomsoever Colonel Palmer may point out as the rightful owner.

‘ It is said that Dhoondiah is coming down towards us ; if he does come, I shall certainly dash at him immediately.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ I do not place much reliance on the proposed attack of Scindiah’s troops, but I write this day to their commanding officer.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Savanore, 13th July, 1800.

‘ I was prevented from answering your letter of the 9th yesterday by our march hither from the river, and by my preparations to attack Dhoondiah. I reconnoitred this place on the 11th, and I was induced to move to it because I found that Dhoondiah was approaching us, as it was said to engage us, and I thought that I should perform the operation better by being disencumbered of baggage, to receive which this place appears tolerably well calculated, and that I should derive some advantage from making the attack, if he should come within reach, instead of by halting upon the Werdah, to wait till he should attack me. He is now at Hoondgul, about twenty-two miles from hence, and, if he moves any nearer, I shall certainly leave my baggage here, and attack him.

‘ The redoubt upon the Werdah is nearly finished, and I have left there the pioneers, and two companies of Bombay infantry, two 12 pounders, two 6 pounders, ammunition for the 12 pounders, &c. These people are to complete the work, and half the latter to be its future garrison. It is on a fine spot, which commands the banks of the river, and will give protection to all our cattle, brinjaries, &c., and confidence to the latter, which is a great object.

‘ By Colonel Palmer’s letter, which I sent you the other day, you will perceive that whatever may be the real intentions of Scindiah in this quarter, he declares that he has ordered the commanding officer of his troops to attack Dhoondiah Waugh. If that be the case Dhoondiah Waugh is still in a bad way.

‘ I have long regretted that such a body of troops as this should be assembled, and that they should have, in fact, no object before them. What you point out is certainly the right line of proceeding ; but as I informed you in a former letter, I do not conceive that the Peshwah either will consent to our taking possession of Darwar, or that if he did consent, Bappojee Scindiah would give it up to us. It then comes to this, if the Peshwah should consent to give us the place, and Bappojee Scindiah should withhold it, we must force it from him by means of a heavy train.

‘ I have nothing here now but two iron twelves ; but the eighteens are at Chittledroog, and I could easily get them up if that plan is to be adopted : and, certainly, unless it is true that Dhoondiah means to fight, I do not see any other mode of bringing this warfare to a close.

‘ This place is, in fact, little better than a large plain, and our troops would walk into it at any time. It will, however, keep my baggage in security for a few days if I should wish to attack him.

‘ I am afraid that until we get Darwar, or some hold in the country, the plan of putting Munro into the management of the districts, which have fallen into our hands, will do us more harm than good, as, in fact, there would be an interval in which they would be under the management of nobody, or the people might resist Munro’s management, and thus we should suffer all the inconveniences, for a time, of a contest in our rear. We get on now, and that is all ; but if we come to have a contest in the rear, we must fall back to see the end of it.

‘ The attack upon Budnaghur failed. God knows how ; I propose to move upon Hoondgul, and to clear that frontier if Dhoondiah keeps at a distance : but if he comes near me I think the best method of settling Soonda, and every other place, is to attack him. Munro talks of losing the revenues of Soonda (as if that was not foreseen and expected at the moment we took possession of it) on every occasion where there should be confusion in this country ; and certainly confusion may be expected in this country for some years to come.

‘ I recollect that in different conferences which I had with you upon this subject at Nuggur, we agreed that this would be the case ; I apprized Government of it early, and yet they

withdrew from it one of the battalions which alone could keep it in tranquillity, or make it deserving our attention.

‘ I have written to Ram Rao for 500 peons, which I shall find of great use.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Camp at Sirhitty, 16th July, 1800.

‘ On the 13th, after I had written to you, I learned that Dhoondiah had come from his camp at Hoondgul, with his whole army and his guns, to within about two coss of mine at Savanore; this he examined for some time on a hill, and then returned towards Hoondgul. I threw my baggage into Savanore on the morning of the 14th, and marched with five days’ provisions, as light as possible, to Hoondgul; he had gone off six coss to Darwar on the night of the 13th, as soon as he heard of my intended march; so that between the morning of the 13th, on which he marched towards me, and that of the 14th, he had gone on the most moderate computation about eighteen Sultauny coss.

‘ He left a garrison of about 600 men in Hoondgul, which I surrounded and stormed on the evening of the 14th, with but trifling loss. On the 15th I marched about seventeen miles to the eastward to Lukmaisier, which place was evacuated; and on this day I have marched about twelve to Sirhitty, which place has been surrounded for the last three weeks by 4000 men belonging to the Dessaye of Dummul, and besieged in the country manner. This siege has been raised, and I return to-morrow towards Savanore, in order to get my baggage, a supply of provisions, &c.

‘ Dhoondiah is in the jungles behind Dummul, and already his people have begun to desert him in numbers. His march to the front was merely to cover the retreat of his baggage, which was sent off to Darwar at the same time.

‘ As soon as I found that he was gone off to the eastward, I wrote to the chiefs of the remnant of Goklah’s force, to request them to march immediately from Hullihall to join me at Savanore, as the road was clear for them: if they should comply with this requisition I shall probably find them at

Savanore on the day after to-morrow, and I shall then move forward again with all my baggage, &c.; and I hope to be able (with the assistance of Bowser, who will by that time be pretty close on his rear) to run down this fellow completely. At all events, by this expedition, I have gained some objects of importance; I have established my superiority in the opinions of my own people, of his, and of the country. I have cut off one of his garrisons, and have taken from him one place of consequence, and I have raised the siege of another; and if the chiefs of Goklah's force attend to my requisitions, which, as their horses are starving at Hullah, I hope they will, I shall be joined by that body of cavalry which will at least enable me to move with all my baggage, and will probably enable me to cut the fellow off completely.

‘ When I found that he ran away from me at Hoondgul, I took the opportunity of offering a reward for his person of 30,000 rupees, as I was heretofore authorized by Government. This will give a spur to the negotiation at Hyderabad; and it is not impossible but that some of the hungry moor-men, who are leaving him, will think that they may as well have these rupees as not, and that at least they will endeavor to earn them; this will increase the confusion which I understand is in his camp.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ I have written to Bowser to order him forward to Copaul, and eventually to Dummul. If I find that he is approaching upon my return to Savanore, I shall move this way immediately, and push Dhoondiah so as to secure Bowser's march. From all reports, however, of the diminution of his numbers, I have reason to believe that Bowser is fully equal to him. All has remained quiet at Savanore, and at the redoubt on the Werdah, I understand, since I marched.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Camp at Savanore, 18th July, 1800.

‘ I wrote you on the 16th, on account of the circumstances which induced me to march from hence, and of my proceed-

ings from the 14th to that day. Nothing particular has happened since the 16th. I marched to Lukmasier yesterday, and to this place this day; and what is very extraordinary, I saw fewer horse about us than I have seen on any day since I quitted the Werdah. Dhoondiah was yesterday morning at Unigury, somewhere between Darwar and Dummul. The remnant of Goklah's army, contrary to my advice, and even orders, had marched to Darwar; and I had intelligence yesterday, that on the night before they had marched from Darwar to join me at this place; but upon this intelligence I place no reliance whatever. I shall know the truth probably this day, and if it is necessary I can march tomorrow with my whole force to their assistance. Dhoondiah keeps at the distance of about two marches from me, which clearly proves that he is not very easy.

‘ I have just received your letters of the 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, to which I am proceeding to reply.

‘ I have called upon Ram Rao for some peons to put into some of the principal places in the great communications with Hurrehur and with Bednore; but the country still remains under the management of Ball Kishen Blow; and for the reasons which I stated in my letter of the 13th, I think it will be better to allow it to remain so, at least till we have a stronger hold of it.

‘ By what has passed in the last five days you will perceive that I can have no anxiety about Hullihall. If I had not the upper hand I should certainly be reduced to the dilemma to which you allude, particularly if I attempted to keep a garrison in Savanore. But I have at present no such intention. I believe I told you that I had been obliged to take to pieces my bridge, so that my communication is now kept up by boats only; the redoubt is on the other side of the river, and guards them well, and gives good cover to my brinjarries. Even if Savanore was a good post it would not answer to cover my boats and brinjarries, as it is seven miles from the river, and even at the present moment the communication for unarmed people is insecure from the straggling horse which are constantly about this camp; it would of course be much more so if I had not established the post upon the river. and if I was not here myself. Upon the whole

then, I shall leave Savanore to be occupied by the first comer, excepting a body of peons can keep it for me.

‘ I have heard from Bowser, but I really cannot tell from his letter at what time he was likely to march; I think, however, about the 10th. If he marches at that time he may be at Copaul by the 25th, and before then I shall be within reach to cover him. I have, however, no apprehension for Bowser, but much for my Marhatta friend, who appears so little willing to obey orders, and so unable to defend himself.

‘ I will make arrangements for the payment of the bullocks coming with the 19th dragoons; I shall make an arrangement, if possible, this day, for bringing forward Munro's amildars upon the frontier, and I will connect their operations, if possible, with my own. My next step must of course depend a good deal upon the necessity of going to the assistance of our allies, upon which I hope to be able to decide this afternoon.

‘ I can say nothing about the bandies, excepting that it is the most scandalous affair that can have happened. We have not one at Chittledroog, and all that can be done is to get them on to Chittledroog as well as we can.

‘ The post at Montana has certainly been threatened, and I believe attacked; but unless they have been guilty of a gross neglect in Malabar, have disobeyed orders, and made a false report, the new post at Cotaparamba must be well supplied with provisions, and of course in perfect security. If the Pyche Rajah comes into Cotiote, or attacks one of these posts in reality, it is certainly necessary to reinforce Tellicherry, if not with a view to the safety of that place, at least with one to the ability of assisting the posts in advance when they are attacked. There is now nothing at Tellicherry excepting a corps of mopla sebundies, consisting of about 100 men; and I should certainly look upon the loss of that place as a very serious misfortune.

‘ I have a letter from Major Walker upon the subject of raising a body of nairs: he seems to think that Kydree Amboo is at the bottom of what he calls the unfounded feuds in Cotiote, and that he wishes to be paid to keep that country quiet. If the plan of employing the nairs should be

connected with this notion of Major Walker's, it will require some consideration whether we ought to pay a tribute to Kydree Amboo for our tranquillity. The truth is, that the posts in Cotiote are fully sufficient to keep it in tranquillity, till Colonel Sartorius can find means to reinforce Tellicherry or Cotaparamba, so as to have a little party ready to take the field, and make a dash at any thing which the Pyche Rajah may attempt to collect together. It is now as easy to move troops through that country as through any other that I know of.

'I have spoken to Captain Mackay about his mutasaddy, and you will have no further trouble upon that subject.

'I will write to you again to-morrow.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL, 'Camp at Savanore, 19th July, 1800.

'I had received from Mr. Uhtoffe copies of the letters you enclosed. The wants of the troops in Soonda have been entirely relieved since he wrote. I have written to the commanding officer in Soonda to desire him to throw the rice (now in Sargaum) into Soopah, about which I conclude he also wrote to you. Gordon neglected to provide that garrison, and if it falls I am sure I do not know how it is to be retaken till after the rains.

'I have written to the amildar of Bonawasi to desire him to collect all the peons he can, and to drive the banditti out of Soonda; also to the commanding officer in Soonda, to desire him to assist this amildar, and to make another attempt upon Budnaghur in concert with him. If it should fail again, I must take an opportunity of stretching out that way, and the siege will in the meantime be converted into a blockade. The amildar is to advance and take possession of *Hangal, to give protection to the inhabitants, &c.

'I have not yet heard any thing of my Marhatta friends, and I therefore conclude that they remain in safety under the walls of Darwar. I expect to hear from them this evening, when I shall determine upon my next movement. Mr. Wilson's letter to Mr. Smee describes the business which I

mentioned to you in my letter of yesterday. The advanced posts I find from private accounts received by other hands, are really as well supplied as they were reported to me to be; and I have therefore no fear for them. A small corps collected at Tellicherry to move about from post to post in the triangle, of which we have the three angles, will in my opinion soon send the Pyche Rajah up the ghauts.

‘ ——— is giving Colonel Stevenson some trouble about his allowance, which he receives from the amildar at Chittledroog. The service upon which the latter is now employed is not one likely to last very long, or one for which it is usual to deprive an officer of his command; and I am afraid that if it was so, we should not find people so willing as they now are to quit their garrisons in order to take the field. Our friend here is really most useful to me, and I should not like to tempt him back to Chittledroog by stopping his allowance during his absence. Will you do me the favor to settle with Purneah that Colonel Stevenson is to receive the allowance, and not ——— ?

‘ I am much obliged to you for the trouble you have taken about our carts and stores. I was very anxious about the gallopers, which, by the by, ought not to have been loaded by the Commissary stores; the latter, however, are in general to be left at Chittledroog; and I still hope that the gallopers will come in from the Toombuddra with the 19th dragoons.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Camp at Savanore, 20th July, 1800.

‘ I have the pleasure to inform you that I was joined in the middle of last night by about 1000 of Goklah's horse; they marched from Darwar yesterday, and say that the remainder of the party, as well as that under Chintomeny Rao, are on the road, and will come in on this day. I have, therefore, no longer any uneasiness about them, or about that quarter, and look only to Bowser. We have had a terrible day and night's rain, which render the roads in this country almost impracticable for any troops, excepting like those of Goklah;

they are frightened out of their wits. This will prevent my marching to-morrow, but I hope on the day after to move forward in great style.

‘I have no fears whatever for Hullihall, which place for this country is strong at all times; but in this season nothing can hurt it, as it is almost covered by a large tank. I have, therefore, written to the commanding officer in Soonda to detach the 1st of the 4th to clear out Soonda about Budnaghur, and to get possession of that place; and if he finds that he cannot do so without guns, he is to make a requisition for them upon the officer commanding the redoubt on the Werdah.

‘They will not be more than two marches from each other. After having given a good clearance to Soonda, this corps is to move to the redoubt, at which place I shall have occasion for it as a convoy for provisions, &c. My route will be by Luckmasier, Sirhitty to Doodwar, which place I shall storm, and then stretch out towards Copaul. I think that I shall be able to keep my rear open by means of this Marhatta cavalry, and you shall hear from me constantly.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘Camp, near Luckmasier,
23rd July, 1800.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘In two days at Savanore I was entirely destroyed. I lost, upon a moderate calculation, about half my cattle. I have, however, contrived to crawl here; I am in the midst of large villages full of cattle, which I am now employed in seizing and arranging to departments, and I hope to be able to move on to-morrow. Never surely was there any thing so unfortunate; but I hope to remedy it in some degree. There is nothing so faulty as our bullock system, and its effects are now most severely felt. I assure you that we have never wanted forage at Savanore; it is true the cavalry in the first two days used all there was in the fort, notwithstanding the orders to cut grass for the horses; but still forage was plentiful at the distance of two or three miles. There is, however, clearly so little interest in the preservation of the bullocks in the breast of the bullock-men, that they could not

be prevailed upon to go out these two or three miles to bring in forage; in some instances they were driven out; the weather became severe to a degree, and the consequence has been that we have lost half our cattle. We lost only four gun bullocks; and from yesterday's march I should imagine that the private cattle of the army, and those belonging to the bazaar people, are as well, if not better, than they were on the last day's march.

'I have some suspicion of dubash tricks, such as fictitious owners and maistries in camp, the real owners being conicopolies in the office at Seringapatam; and if I find a real and clear proof of that transaction, I shall send the whole of it to Madras. Mackay swears that it is so.

'Dhoondiah is gone to the Malpoorba, and I believe intends to take refuge with the Rajah of Kolapoor. I hear from Munro that there is a vakcel from that Rajah on his way from Goa to my camp, having left at Goa his fellow. I have written to Uhtoffe to desire him to dispatch the vakcel from Goa to inform his master that he must prevent Dhoondiah from crossing the Malpoorba: and that if he does not do so he may possibly be treated as an enemy by the combined armies of the British, the Nizam, and Goklah. If he stops him at the Malpoorba I think we shall give a good account of him.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

'I have got bullocks, and am able to get on again once more.'

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL.

'Camp, near Luckmasier,
24th July, 1800.

'I have been able to move this day, and I hope to be at Dummul on the day after to-morrow, where I have ordered Bowser to join me.

'Dhoondiah certainly wants to cross the Malpoorba, but he has no boats, and the river has overflowed its banks. General Braithwaite has appointed Nundydroog as the station at which Cuppage's corps is to be raised, and Bangalore

for that of another person; it will be necessary to prevail upon him to alter that arrangement, and I shall be happy to assist in forwarding any view of Cuppage's.

'In the meantime as it is impossible for Cuppage to reside there at present, and as it is absolutely necessary for me to have there somebody, I have desired Mr. Read of the 33rd to go over and take charge of the place. He is a sensible man, and understands the language, and will answer well for a time; either till Cuppage is removed there, and able to take charge, or till the officer in command of the corps to be raised at Bangalore shall arrive.

'Cuppage has sent me some papers regarding stores and provisions for Nundydroog, which are so incomplete that I can make nothing of them, and I have been obliged to return them to him.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL, 'Camp at Sirhitty, 25th July, 1800.

'I arrived here this day, and was joined on the march by Chintmoney Rao and his party, which is called 3000 horse, but is in reality about 1500. Colonel Bowser was at Kanegherry on the 20th, expected to be at Copaul on the 22nd, and I have ordered him to join me at Dummul to-morrow.

'You will observe by my letters that I had, on the 1st of July, ordered that a party, such as you proposed, should be assembled at Tellicherry, and I have no doubt but that they will clear out Cotiote in a short time; that is to say, if they behave like men.

'The success at Oustara is capital.

'Bowser has not a grain of any thing. I have in camp for my own people twenty six days' rice from the — of July, and there are 1200 bags at Savanore, which will give Bowser a supply to the same period; but send on to us every thing that you can get together.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL,

'Camp at Dummul, 26th July, 1800.

'I have the pleasure to inform you that I stormed and got possession of Dummul this morning. I attacked it in three places, at the gateway and on two faces, and carried it with a trifling loss, which was to be attributed chiefly to the eagerness of the soldiers to get upon the ladder, and it broke.

'It is a strong stone fort, well built, with a dry ditch. The ladders used were above thirty feet long, and, in my opinion, the fort ought not to have been attacked with them.

'Bowser has not joined me yet; I know he is at Copaul, and I ordered him here. I shall not wait for him, however, but shall proceed on my march to-morrow morning.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL,

'Camp at Soondetty, 3rd August, 1800.

'The Marhattas were so slow in their motions to take possession of the fort of Manowly, that the enemy occupied it on the night of the 31st before they attempted to get in. They also appeared so unable to take away the guns, and so unwilling to remain opposite Manowly for their protection, that I determined to destroy them, and did so immediately. I marched here on the 1st, and have halted yesterday and this day to refresh a little, and get matters again into order. Dhoondiah has brought back from the eastward that detachment which he had made to that quarter, and the whole of his force is gone along the Malpoorba towards the jungles of Kittoor and Soonda. I follow him to-morrow.

'Bowser's corps, with an additional regiment of cavalry, and commanded by Colonel Stevenson, proceeds along the Malpoorba, and is to follow his track; I shall go with my troops to-morrow to Belgary, the next day to Kittoor, and shall keep at the distance of about fifteen miles from the river.

'The Marhattas will be on the look out between me and Stevenson, and me and Darwar, and thus we shall sweep

along that whole line from Darwar to the river, and Dhoondiah must either go into the jungles, or he must go to the southward of Darwar into the open country. If he goes into the jungles we shall easily come up with his rear; if he takes to the plain, I shall cross upon him with my detachment.

‘ It is now impossible for him to get over the Malpoorba, unless that river falls more than is expected at this time of the year; and even if he does contrive to cross in consequence of the falling of the river, I hope to have means of stopping him on the other side.

‘ The vakeel of the Kolapoor Rajah arrived yesterday; I had a conversation with him immediately, and made known to him very clearly my sentiments regarding his master. I told him that if Dhoondiah entered his country, I should follow him, and that if he assisted Dhoondiah, he was to understand that I should enter the country as an enemy. That the fort of Manowly had allowed Dhoondiah's army to encamp under the protection of its guns, and had given shelter to the people who escaped from the Company's troops across the river Malpoorba, and had fired upon us. That the killadar must either have acted in consequence of orders from his master, or he must have disobeyed the orders he had received; that in the one case the Rajah must be considered as having committed an act of hostility against the Company, or, in the other, his killadar would deserve a punishment which it would be my duty to inflict, and I desired that he might be given up to me.

‘ The vakeel said that the Rajah was sincerely desirous of being on the best terms with the Company; that he would positively prevent Dhoondiah from entering his country, and would assemble men for that purpose; and that the killadar of Manowly should be given up.

‘ He afterwards, in the course of yesterday, consented on the part of the Rajah to admit Baba Saheb (the younger son of Pursheram Bhow), with his army, into the country, in order to watch and prevent any attempt of Dhoondiah to cross the river. Baba Saheb was yesterday near Badamy; but I have written to him to ascend the river, and he and the Rajah's troops will certainly be able to stop Dhoondiah on that side.

‘ It appears to me very clearly that the Rajah of Kolapoor is much afraid of our entering his country at all, on account of our connexion with the Bhow’s family, as he thinks it probable that we should take their part in the quarrel subsisting between the two parties. In all the conversations I have had with the Bhow’s people, I have urged them to make peace with the Rajah of Kolapoor, as the only means of re-establishing their power in this country, or of keeping out such people as Dhoondiah. To this idea they at first manifested strong objections; but latterly they have listened to it a little more, I believe in consequence of finding that I was not disposed to listen to their propositions to attack the Kolapoor Rajah; and yesterday, in the conference which I had with all the parties in order to arrange the expedition under Baba Saheb, I again urged them to make peace, and desired that both parties should write down what they had to say upon the subject. The Bhow, Lingo Punt, and the Rajah’s vakeel, all then declared that they were persuaded it was the only measure which could save the countries, and that they would really do their utmost to bring it about.

‘ I wrote to Colonel Palmer upon the subject some days ago; and if we can only arrange this matter, and get Appah Saheb appointed sole zemindar, or jaghiredar, upon this frontier, which I also mentioned to Colonel Palmer, we may hope to have matters in Soonda and to the northward of Mysore in tolerable tranquillity. Our friend Munro has sent an amildar into the countries right of the Werdah, who is playing the devil. I have, however, ordered him to the presence, and have proclaimed in the country that he has no authority from me. He is a kind of *rights of men* man, who has ordered the people to pay no revenue to any body, and of course is obeyed. One of the consequences of his orders is, that the peons put into the different villages and forts by the Bhow do not receive their subsistence; they have threatened to hang their havildars, and now plunder the country.

‘ We have hitherto enjoyed the greatest of all blessings for troops, a quiet rear, and a secure communication with our own country, and I am anxious, to a degree, that it should not be disturbed for any trifling object. .

‘ I think that matters in Cotiote will soon take a favorable term ; Sartorius will certainly by this time have marched to the assistance of the advanced posts.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Kittoor, 5th August, 1800.

‘ I arrived here this morning upon the plan which I stated to you in my letter of the 3rd. Dhoondiah is gone quite into the jungles, and his head is beyond the sources of the Malpoorba. Stevenson is at a place called Eytegul, about six miles from hence, and will follow the tail of Dhoondiah to-morrow, part of which he may probably cut off. I halt here to construct boats, to make certain other arrangements which I am about to detail.

‘ 1st. It is very certain that as Dhoondiah has crossed by the sources of the Malpoorba, I could follow him by that route ; but I must have a communication with this country, which by the same route would be long and difficult, and would be liable to constant interruption from the violence of the rains in these jungly countries. I have therefore determined to have my communication by boats, and at Sungoly, which is three coss from hence, and I halt here to construct the boats, as it is in the neighbourhood of a bamboo jungle, and of Darwar, where I can get hides, and it is a plentiful country, with rice, green and dry forage, &c.

‘ 2ndly. I must throw my sick and wounded into a place of security, and none will answer so well as Hullihall, which place is five coss from hence.

‘ 3rdly. I propose to make a collection and depôt of rice at Hullihall, and that cannot be done unless I go there myself to have a little conversation with the dubash in office. What do you think of the difficulties stated in procuring the supply for that garrison, when I tell you that about half an hour after my arrival, a buccall of this place told me that he would let me have 500 bags to-morrow, and would make it 1000 before eight days elapsed ?

‘ 4thly. It is necessary to curb Munro’s amildars a little, who are taking possession of every place in the country,

whether belonging to friends or to foes, and who have given great disgust to the allies.

‘The first is the only reason which induces me to halt; but I shall have a sufficiency of occupation while I am here.

‘I have made all the arrangements for constructing the boats; and I shall go over to Hullihall to-morrow morning to settle the other points which are objects of my attention.

‘Although I think I shall be able to fill, in this country, 3000 empty brinjaries which I have got, let Purneah desire his amildars to forward supplies to us as fast as they can.

‘I wait only for Palmer’s answer from Poonah to begin peace making, according to the plan which I stated to you in my letter of the 3rd. All parties appear anxious for it, and I think that we ought to be so.

‘Budnaghur is in our hands, and the frontier of Soonda is clearer of the banditti. I hear also that the rogues who went to Nurjin, in Canara, have withdrawn.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘Camp at Kittoor, 8th August, 1800.

‘I went to Hullihall and returned again on the 6th, having arranged there everything I had to do.

‘Dhoondiah is fairly across the Malpoorba; he left camels, &c., upon the road; but Stevenson has not been able to come up with any part of his rear. Stevenson is now encamped at Kanapoor, where he proposes to cross the river. Dhoondiah was yesterday morning within three coss of his camp, but he marched in the evening (as it is reported) to the N.E. My opinion is that he is going towards Bauggrecotta, that he will cross the Gutpurba and the Kistna, and get among the polygars of Solapoor, &c., who are dependent both upon the Marhattas and the Nizam.

‘There was a mutiny in his camp yesterday morning, and there is no doubt whatever that his army is reduced almost to nothing: if we are able to push him a little between the Gutpurba and Malpoorba, we shall probably reduce him so low as to make him a very despicable enemy. In my opinion we ought not to cross the Gutpurba, if that should be the

case ; but ought to confine our endeavours to giving strength to the chiefs on the frontier, in order to prevent Dhoondiah's return.

' The war will literally have no object nor no end, if we are to follow a single man with a few horsemen to the end of the world ; and at the same time, if we do not take some measures to strengthen the frontier, Dhoondiah, or some body else will certainly return as soon as we withdraw to our own country.

' Let me know your opinion upon this subject, in order that I may make a proposition to Government without delay. I have already taken measures to make peace between the Kolapoor Rajah and Appah Saheb.

' Believe me, &c.

' *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

' ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

' MY DEAR COLONEL,

' Camp at Kittoor, 10th August, 1800.

' I omitted to answer one part of your letter of the 1st instant regarding Reyman Beg, the prisoner at Nundydroog. In my opinion, unless Baba Saheb gives his consent, he cannot be punished, but that may probably be obtained through the means of Captain Kirkpatrick.

' Nothing new here. Stevenson is crossing the Malpoorba at Kanapoor, and I am making preparations to cross it at Sungoly. If my native friends were a little alert, I should have twenty boats ready to-morrow.

' I heard from Webbe last night, and I am very much concerned to find that he is not going to Poonah. Among other things, he informs me that the five companies of the 12th, and the 2nd of the 5th, are coming up the ghauts, as he says, to enable me to oppose the Rajahs in Malabar. I have already ordered these corps to Seringapatam, there to remain encamped under the Caryghaut hill till further orders ; and I have ordered guns to be equipped for them at that place, and every thing else to be prepared.

' The question is, in what manner shall they be employed against the Rajahs in Malabar ? In my opinion they ought to go below the ghauts as soon as the weather will permit, if Purneah's people are able to keep the Rajah at all within

bounds on the Mysore side of Wynaad; and if I hear from you that that is the case, I shall order them to Cannanore without loss of time. The season will be fair by the time that they will receive my orders, after I shall have heard from you.

‘ If they are to oppose the Pyche Rajah on the side of Wynaad, they must, I am afraid, remain on the defensive, as they are not sufficiently strong by themselves to enter that jungly country; and I am besides informed that it will be impossible to commence operations in it till the month of November.

‘ It may be possible to open the campaign early in Cotiote, and push forward the roads, and establish ourselves at the foot, if not on the top, of the ghauts; and then, if I am in luck, I shall have settled matters here before November, and can march down to Wynaad, and settle matters there before the setting in of the next rains.

‘ Let me hear from you as soon as you can respecting the ability of Purneah's troops to confine the Rajah to his jungles.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ Kistnapah arrived this morning. The 19th not come yet.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at the right bank of the Malpoorba,
13th August, 1800.

‘ I have received your letter of the 9th instant. The loaded bullocks which come from Mysore sell off their goods as soon as they arrive in camp. We have a bazaar called the Rajah's, into which they go, and I do not believe they are detained one day. Among these I do not include the brinjarries; they have been detained, as their rice has been issued to the troops through the grain department. But even the brinjarries were detained only once, and that was while the troops were marching from Savanore to Manowly. You may depend upon it that the dealers from Mysore shall not be detained one moment after they arrive.

‘ I have delayed to send instructions for the 12th regiment, and the 2nd of the 5th, till I should hear from you.

but by your two last letters I perceive that we must use these troops in the first instance to regain possession of Edatera; however, as the 12th will not arrive at Seringapatam till the beginning of September, I shall still delay to send instructions to the detachment till I hear further from you.

‘Kistnapah is arrived, and is a little wild; but I have given him a check, and I hope he will go on well.

‘I hope that we shall not be involved in a war with the Marhattas, on the crude notions of—.

‘Is it possible that any man can believe that it is Scindiah’s intention to attack the Nizam at this moment, above all others? We have now a strong force in the centre of the Marhatta country, and should have on our side, in case of a contest with Scindiah, all the Marhattas of these parts, and others from the side of Sera, &c. Scindiah’s army has crossed the Kistna; and if the armament has been increased lately, I conceive that he is desirous of co-operating with us in the destruction of Dhoondiah; and, probably, by means of a large force, to check any arrangements of the country on our frontier, which we may think it proper to make. A strong army will give much weight and effect to his intrigues in this part of the country.

‘There is another reason which most probably has weighed considerably on producing the armament at Poonah. Goklah was looked upon by all the Marhatta chiefs to be invincible, and he was much respected at Poonah. His defeat and death have had great effect there, and it is not improbable but that these events may have urged the Peshwah to make some exertion. Whatever may be the real motive of Scindiah’s conduct, it is certainly not his intention to attack the Nizam at this moment.

‘I have heard nothing from Colonel Palmer in answer to my letters upon the subject of the arrangements of the countries in our frontier. I do not think it improbable but that Scindiah may himself be desirous of obtaining Darwar and Savanore, as well as Meritch and Tasgaum. I should think it a misfortune if he were to succeed in that object, as without attacking us openly, which in my opinion the Marhattas will always avoid, he will contrive to put an end to the tranquillity of our frontier. If the Bhow’s family retain possession of these provinces, and we can establish them firmly, we shall

be quiet, and we ought to be contented. If Scindiah is to have them, my opinion is, that we ought to ask for compensation for our expenses; that we ought to push ourselves at least as far forward as the Werdah, if we do not ask for Darwar and the open country bordering upon Soonda. When I talk of the Bhow's family retaining possession of these provinces, I mention them because they have had them hitherto, and are attached to us, and under our influence; any other family under our influence would answer equally well after a short time: and when I talk of the bad effects of allowing Scindiah to have these provinces, I mean him or any of his creatures; in short, there ought to be a strong government in this country, the head of which ought to be attached to us; and I prefer the Bhow's family to any other, because they have had possession, and have it now; and if we wish to put in another family, we must have a contest to effect our object.

'These are my notions after the fullest consideration of the state of this country.

'All the jaghiredars hereabouts would of course be averse to our strengthening to any considerable degree the hands of the Bhow's family, as they thereby become proportionably weak and insignificant. They therefore now bring forward to notice every little man who has any claims whatever to the soil, such as the Rajah of Kittoor, &c. I receive them all, call for their co-operation against Dhoondiah in the first instance, and refer the consideration of their claims to the Bhow and to a future period. Hereafter, if the Bhow is supported at Poonah, he will be able to crush all these petty Rajahs, and put them on the footing on which they were heretofore in better times; if he is not supported at Poonah, and we should abandon his cause, the Rajahs will do him no harm.

'My friend Kistnapah has taken some of these Rajahs in hand, and has brought them forward. I have, however, given him a hint that the Bhow's family are my object, and that any man who has any thing to say to the country must look up to them.

'I have got three battalions of infantry over the river, and many boats prepared, and I shall not be long crossing the remainder of the troops.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘Camp on the Malpoorba,
17th August, 1800.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘I have received your letter of the 12th, and I agree with you that I ought not to follow Dhoondiah further than the Gutpurba, and I should not even have crossed the Malpoorba if it had not been to give confidence to the allies, and to awe the Rajah of Kolapoor.

‘This Rajah has positively refused to allow Dhoondiah to enter his country, and he has assembled an army to co-operate against him; but it is at such a distance that I can make nothing of it at present. This Rajah appears heartily tired of Scindiah and his politics, and well inclined towards us: if Colonel Palmer is only tolerably firm, this would be the time to send Scindiah to Hindustan.

‘I am going to give Dhoondiah one more run between the Gutpurba and Malpoorba, and I think I have a chance of picking up some baggage, &c.: it is clear I shall never catch him. His baggage has only one way to escape, and that is to recross the Malpoorba near Badamy; but I guard against that by detaching two corps of Marhattas and a brigade of infantry towards Jellahaul, and I pursue him with my troops along the Malpoorba, Stevenson’s along the Gutpurba, and Goklah’s and the Mogul’s between us, as far as the junction of those two rivers with the Kistna. I think I shall make something of this plan, although I may not probably get hold of him.

‘I shall write to Government this day respecting my future operations. I can tell you that I have supplies to carry me to Poonah, if that were necessary, and my prospects are improving daily. I was a little anxious about arrack for a few days, but Uhtoffe (who is full of zeal) has sent me a supply from Goa, which will arrive at Hullihall, I believe, this day, and will be here before I can march.

‘I have reports of 10,000 full brinjarries between this and the Werdah; and I have 3000 out along the skirts of Soonda filling with rice; besides these the Mysore dealers come in apace.

‘Our price brings a few sheep from this country; and I have encouraged my (Amut Mahal) friend, by paying him for the sheep as they were in numbers at Hurryhur, taking

upon the Company (which is only fair) all the loss between that place and the camp.

‘ In short, I have as yet experienced no serious want, and I have more of every thing now than I ever had; I have better prospects before me.

‘ It is supposed that the rivers Werdah and Malpoorba will be fordable in two or three weeks, and that the Gut-purba will be fordable in a month.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ Montana has been relieved, but with loss on our side.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Camp at Hoobly, 20th August, 1800.

‘ I return the papers from Major Walker. I had before received accounts from Malabar of the relief of the two posts. These roads will not answer unless they do as I desired them at first; that is, cut the underwood to a considerable distance on each side of the road. I have ordered Sartorius to employ the pioneers and coolies on this work immediately, as whatever may be the plan for the next campaign, the communication with Montana must be made secure, or all will be lost. It will be fortunate if Purneah can check the Nairs on the Mysore side; if he cannot, the 12th and 2nd of the 5th must go that way.

‘ If he can check them they shall go to Malabar; and I will send orders to begin by pushing the roads to the foot of the ghauts. Major Walker’s plan of having a force assembled in Mysore, to give room for apprehension in that quarter, would be excellent, if we had troops in Malabar to stand even upon the defensive, or to make such improvements in our roads and posts as are necessary to their security, and to give us the means hereafter of deriving a full advantage from them. But they are so weak in Malabar, their force is so dispersed, and it is so difficult to persuade the commissioners to allow it to be collected, that I am afraid we shall suffer in Cotiote if we should not be able to send thither this reinforcement. However, Mysore is the first object, and if Purneah cannot stop the Nairs, the 12th and 2nd of the 5th must.

‘I hope to be able to march on the 22nd. Dhoondiah is in a bad way; his people are starving, are leaving him, and reproach him with their misfortunes. He retorts upon them, and desires them to give their wives and daughters to the Europeans, whom they are afraid to fight. This is the report, and that the Patans have left him.

‘All my arrangements are made, and in a few days I shall press upon him at all points at the same moment.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Camp at Hoobly, 21st August, 1800.

‘I have just received your letter of the 18th. I am afraid that the attempt to establish a depôt at Hurryhur, or on the Werdah, would ruin us entirely, as I should find that the brinjaries, who of course, like the other dealers, object to coming to such a distance, would lodge their rice at the depôt instead of bringing it forward. It would be impossible to frame any arrangement to prevent that, and the idea must therefore be laid aside, although it would certainly be desirable to have a depôt, and the nearer the better.

‘If the dealers from Mysore do not like to come forward, it cannot be helped, we must do without them.

‘The loss at Montana was very great certainly; but not so much so as is represented by the commissioners whose letters I return. There is a post half way between Cotaparamba and Montana, called Pyche, which was abandoned, but since the roads have been made, at the particular desire of Sartorius, who had not troops to take care of it. My opinion is, that the Pyche Rajah will now withdraw his people from both those posts in Cotiote, where he has lost many men, and that he will direct his efforts to the Mysore side. If he does withdraw, they should lose no time in throwing in a further supply to Montana, and in making such improvements on the roads as will render the communication more easy in future.

‘I see no reason why all the troops that can be spared should not be immediately collected, be pushed forward to Cotaparamba, and employed to cover the working parties upon the road between the river and Montana.

‘ I have yet received no intelligence whatever from Colonel Palmer. I suspect that he has made a proposition of some kind to Bajee Rao, as Goklah has just communicated to me a letter from him, in which he desires him to join himself with Appah Saheb and Chintomoney Rao, and settle the country. Baba Saheb and Chintomoney Rao are gone away with Capper; but I do not doubt that they have received letters of a similar tendency.

‘ The system hitherto has been to divide these chiefs, to keep those of the Bhow’s family in the back ground, and to bring forward Goklah.

‘ I have besides private information from Ball Kishna Bhow, that private orders have been sent to Appah Saheb to increase his forces to the utmost degree possible; and Ball Kishna Bhow says, that a blow against Scindiah is meditated, and that he is convinced that I shall receive a requisition through Colonel Palmer to assist in freeing the Peshwah from Scindiah’s clutches.

‘ There is certainly some change at Poonah, otherwise Goklah would not have been desired to join with Appah Saheb; but what that change is, I cannot say.

‘ I received a letter this morning from the commander of Scindiah’s forces; they are on this side of the Kistna. He says that he also is occupied in the destruction of Dhoondiah, and that if he goes towards him he will fall upon him and destroy him.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ I omitted to inform you, that having received some dooley bearers from Madras, I have discharged seven sets of the Mysore bearers, and have given them their pay to the end of September, to carry them to their villages. I found them so attentive, and they behaved so well in marching with the troops upon all occasions to the attack of all these places, and at Manowly, that I gave them a present of a pagoda each man at the end of last month.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Hoobly, 25th August, 1800.

‘ I enclose two letters from Lieut. Colonel Palmer, from which it is clear that no arrangement can be made in this

country, and I shall therefore confine my endeavors to the recommendation of peace to all the parties. In my opinion Scindiah will very soon be in possession of Savanore.

‘ I received yesterday a letter from the European commanding officer of his troops, by name Dawes, who says that they have received no orders to co-operate with me, or to interfere at all in the present warfare.

‘ Dhoondiah left five guns, a large quantity of ammunition, some arms (Company’s), in possession of the Jalloor polygar, near whose place I encamped the day before yesterday. I sent Colonel Montresor with a detachment yesterday to take and destroy them, and he did so effectually.

‘ I hear that Colonel Capper has taken the fort of Hooly which is about six miles east of Soondooty. I had passed this place on my way to Manowly, and on the day after the action had given it cowle; whether it was taken possession of by some of the fugitives from Manowly, or from what cause I know not, but some of the baggage of the dragoons was plundered by the people belonging to it. I hear from the Marhatta chief that Capper suffered no loss.

‘ Dhoondiah made two marches towards Badamy to cross the Malpoorba at Tolusgur; but when he heard of the march of Lieut. Colonel Capper (who must have reached Jellahaul yesterday), he returned, and is now gone to the junction of the Kistna and the Gutpurba. Stevenson is moving down the Gutpurba, and I directly upon him, at the distance of about one march from each river. I could not move along the Malpoorba as I intended, on account of the difficulty of the roads; but I have some Marhattas on all parts of the river.

‘ I think I have some chance of falling upon him.

‘ To do Colonel Stevenson justice, as soon as I mentioned to him your notion of Major Isaac’s claim to the allowance at Chittledroog, he acquiesced in it, and desired that it might be paid to the Major. I omitted to write to you upon this subject as I ought; but I had many other things to think of.

‘ I have no power to order the repairs of magazines, store-rooms, &c.; but as soon as Franks sends me the estimates you mention, I shall apply to Government that he may be allowed to make the repairs. As Macintyre is at Seringapa-

tam, I shall make the arrangement you propose for the pioneers, and do every thing else in my power to make Chittledroog a good and useful fort. While writing upon this subject, it occurs to me to mention, that in my opinion we ought to have a post at Hurryhur, with a granary well provided. Hullihall ought to be made a proper post, and to be well stored with grain and provisions, and we may then defy all the Scindiahs of the Marhatta empire. I shall write to Government upon this subject as soon as matters shall have become a little settled.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ I enclose a letter from Mr. Uhtoffe, which throws further light upon the intended co-operation of Scindiah in concert with the Kolapoor Rajah.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Camp at Herty Kernal,
28th August, 1800.

‘ I am sorry to inform you that Dhoondiah escaped across the Malpoorba at Boodeyhaul on the night of the 24th, the river having fallen considerably on that day. He is gone towards the Nizam’s country.

‘ Stevenson will be at Boodeyhaul, and, I hope, across the river this day; I shall be at Johughur, and, I hope, across to-morrow. I have made all the arrangements for altering the line of communication for my supplies, and I hope to be able to follow Dhoondiah without inconvenience in a day or two. As soon as I found that he pointed to the eastward. I wrote to Meer Allum, who is at Copaul, and apprized him of the possibility that he might cross the Malpoorba, notwithstanding the measures which I took to stop him; and I requested him to provide for such an event.

‘ It is to be hoped, that if he has done so, Dhoondiah will not have it in his power to do much mischief before I can approach him. It is said that there are some brinjarries and baggage still on this side of the river; I do not know whether that is true or not, but I send a detachment after them to-morrow.

‘ I have received your letter of the 22nd, and wrote to you

fully respecting Scindiah and the Kolapoor Rajah some days ago; since that I find that Scindiah's troops south of the Kistna have attacked a polygar, who was, at my request, on the banks of Gutpurba to stop Dhoondiah; and in his absence on this service have taken his fort of Naibaug. I send the polygar's letter to Colonel Palmer and to Government. The hircarrahs report that some of his troops are in Dhoondiah's camp, but that I do not believe.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL,' 'Camp at Jellahaul, 30th August, 1800.

'I marched seventeen miles yesterday and crossed the Malpoorba at the deepest, but in other respects the best, ford that I have seen.

'My opinion still is that Dhoondiah will go to the Soorapoor man; but he may do otherwise. He may seek to cross the Toombuddra and to get among his friends the Patans, and the polygars on our frontier, and the Nizams. My plan is therefore as follows,—to go off myself towards Kanagherry, and to get well into the Dooab with a large number of boats collected at Anagoondy, and when I shall have got well forward towards Kanagherry to push Stevenson at him from his present encampment on the Malpoorba. The Marhattas will be between us. If he commences to cross the Kistna, Stevenson may dash at him at once; if he turns back into Savanore, I move again to my left, and cover my supplies, Bednore, &c.

'The Marhattas are so much afraid of him that I can get them to do nothing alone; and that is the reason he escaped this time. They were ordered to push on in front of Capper, and to possess themselves of those parts of the river most likely to be fordable and to get intelligence; but as soon as they heard that he intended to cross the Malpoorba, they kept in Capper's rear, and no orders or entreaties could get them forward. He could not have dared to cross in their front, particularly as Capper would have been within a forced march of them; and at the time he crossed it would have been impracticable for him to return to any of the upper fords without falling into my hands.

' I sent Colonel Montresor after the brinjarries, &c.; he informs me that they were last night at the place where I heard they were, in number 10,000, and he intended to move upon them this morning, so that we shall at least have gained so much by our operations.

' Believe me, &c.

' *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

' ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

' Badamy, which I passed yesterday, is a kind of fortified pettah, between two hill forts: these last are much of the same construction with those in Mysore.'

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

' MY DEAR COLONEL,

' Camp at Kanagherry,
7th September, 1800.

' I arrived here this morning upon the plan which I stated to you in my letter of the 30th August. Dhoondiah is forward in the Doah, so that so far my plan has succeeded in preventing him from making a dash at my communication. It is said that he has boats with him; if so, I shall push on with the cavalry in order to impede the operation of crossing either of the rivers, and have desired Meer Allum to prepare boats for me at Anagoondy, in case Dhoondiah should by any means contrive to get any large force over the Toombuddra.

' Colonel Stevenson is with three battalions and two regiments of cavalry this day at Moodgul, and I have desired him to have an eye to a large number of brinjarries, and some baggage which are in the jungles about Deodroog, and whose intention it is to cross the Kistna into the country of the Soorapoor Rajah. The Marhatta and Mogul cavalry are between me and Colonel Stevenson.

' God knows whether I shall catch Dhoondiah; but I hope I shall prevent him from doing us any mischief.

' I did not tell you that I had got a tandah of above 10,000 brinjarries beyond the Malpoorba. I have given them 6000 rupees upon *good security*, and have sent them into Canara to load. I write to Munro upon the subject by their opportunity.

' These brinjarries give a curious account of the manner in which Dhoondiah goes on. They say that he has with him still above 40,000 of their class, that he employs them

and gives them the means of living in the following manner. When he approaches a village or a town which is unprotected by a fort, he sends a body of horse, and of brinjarries to levy a contribution; he takes to himself all the money he can get, and gives them at a certain low price all the grain and all the cattle they can find. They pay him this price for the gram and cattle, and they are allowed to sell them at such profit as his camp will afford.

‘ They say that he has with him nearly all the brinjarries of this part of India. These people who were taken belonged to the Baramahl, and they say there are many others from that country, from the Nizam’s and Marhatta country. In the latter, indeed, there is not now a brinjarry to be found, and, from the state of Colonel Bowser’s supplies, I should imagine that there can be but few in the Nizam’s country.

‘ I send orders by this opportunity for the march of the 12th regiment, and 2nd of the 5th to Malabar.

‘ For the reasons I heretofore sent to you in my letter of the 25th of August, I do not think that we shall be able to make any arrangement here. The Bhows son Baba Sahab spoke to me upon the subject most earnestly a few nights ago, and said that he saw plainly that, unless we interfered, Scindiah would have every thing. I told him that I had seen that long ago, and therefore had urged them to make peace with the Kolapoor Rajah. He seemed anxious to make peace; but, by a letter received last night from the Kolapoor Rajah, it appears that he will not make peace with them, and from the difference of the style of the letter, and from the manner of rejecting my offer to bring about a reconciliation, I am of opinion that he must have received some new lesson from Scindiah. I was informed lately that, in a conversation between Colonel Palmer and Scindiah upon the subject of the differences between the Kolapoor Rajah and the sons of Pursheram Bhow, the latter asked what right we had to interfere in the business, when the former replied that we never should give up the claim to a certain sum of money due to us by the Rajah. This may not be true, but I have no other mode of accounting for the sudden refusal of the Rajah to listen to my mediation.

‘ The conversation above recited was reported to me by

Baba Saheb, when I informed him that we certainly should not take part in their dispute with the Kolapoor Rajah, unless he gave an asylum to Dhoondiah.

‘The sum of money said to be due is, I believe, the ransom of Malwaur.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Camp at Yepulpurry,
11th September, 1800.

‘I have the pleasure to inform you that I gained a complete victory yesterday in an action with Dhoondiah’s army, in which he was killed. His body was found and recognized, and was brought to the camp on one of the guns attached to the 19th dragoons.

‘I had before informed you of my plan of operations in the Dooab. I marched from Kanagherry on the 8th, left my infantry at Nowly, and proceeded on with the cavalry only. I arrived here on the 9th, and the infantry at Shinnoor about fifteen miles in my rear. On the 9th Dhoondiah marched from Mudgherry, about twenty five miles on this side of Raichore, towards the Kistna: but he saw Colonel Stevenson’s camp, turned back immediately, and encamped on that night about nine miles from hence, between this place and Bunnoo. The night was so bad, and my horses were so much fatigued, that I could not move till morning, although I had intelligence of the place at which he was encamped. After passing a most anxious night between the 9th and 10th, I moved yesterday morning, and met the whole of the enemy’s army at Conahgull, about six miles from hence, and three from the ground on which he had been encamped. He had not heard of my being near him, was on his march with an intention of passing to the westward between my detachment, which he supposed to be at Chinnoor, and the Mogul and Marhatta cavalry at Moosky Bilganoor. He, however, drew up in a remarkably strong position when he saw me, and his people, whom I think to have been 5000 in number, stood with apparent firmness. I charged them with the 19th and 25th dragoons, and the 1st and 2nd regiments of native cavalry, and drove them till they

dispersed, and were scattered over all parts of the country. I then returned to the camp and got possession of elephants, camels, baggage, &c., which were still upon the ground. If the Mogul and Marhatta cavalry had marched in decent time, the whole body must have been destroyed, as they fled in the line on which they must have met them; but I imagine they did not march till after they had heard that I had moved, and of course were late: they have been employed in the pursuit since yesterday evening, and, I expect, will destroy the whole body.

‘The troops behaved admirably, and I assure you that if they had not done so, not a man of us would have quitted the field.

‘Thus has ended this warfare, and I propose to draw off gradually toward Savanore in a day or two. Lieut. Colonel Bowser, and the Mogul cavalry, will be able to set all matters to rights in the Nizam’s territories, and my Marhattas must arrange for themselves.

‘I have this morning received a letter from Colonel Palmer, in which he desires me to hand over to Gunput Rao all the Peshwah’s concerns in this country, which man has to my certain knowledge assisted Dhoondiah, and did so even in his escape from me across the Malpoorba. I look upon it that I have now nothing to say to the concerns of the Marhatta country, excepting to get myself out of it; and I shall accordingly not interfere in any manner in any thing which is going forward.

‘I wish to have your opinion as soon as possible respecting my route. My own idea is to cross the Werdah at the redoubt, to proceed from thence by Shikarpoor, and along the left bank of the Toombuddra to Oostara, and thence to Seringapatam. My reason for preferring this road is that I may awe Kistnapah Naig into a peace, and next because I shall do less injury to the country on that road than on any other. It is a grass country; will afford plenty of forage; and as the cultivation is in general paddy, it will not be injured. You can have no conception of the number of people and cattle that I have got with me; and I shudder at the thoughts of the injury which they will do to any dry grain country through which they will pass. I had some thoughts of crossing the Toombuddra at Anagoondy; but I should

lose much time there from the want of boats, the difficulty of procuring them, and the rapidity of the river. Besides, it will be convenient to pass by the redoubt, in order to get some things which are there. If I pass by the redoubt, there is no doubt but that the road I propose is the fittest, and that on which I am likely to do least damage. Purneah, however, will be the best judge on this subject, and I will move any way he pleases. Let me hear from you soon, that I may make my arrangements accordingly in good time.

This country is in a terrible state, almost a desert, and where there are inhabitants, no authority. The Nizam's killadar of Chinnoor had a regular tappall posted, in order to give intelligence to Dhoondiah. He wrote to him on the 8th, to inform him that I was to be on that day at Nowly, and on the 9th at Chinnoor; and it is incredible what pains he took to induce me to go no further. I was not to be prevailed upon, however, and came on here, and by coming put a stop to the communication. Thus Dhoondiah was not apprised of my situation, and even had reason to believe that I was at least fifteen miles farther from him.

' Believe me, &c.

' *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

' ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

' P.S. It has occurred to me, that now that we shall be able to carry on the war in Wynaad, it will not be necessary to send down the 12th and 2nd batt. of the 5th regiments to Malabar; and it will be very inconvenient to send away the latter particularly. We must have some kind of force to the northward of Mysore when I go south. I can manage so as to have a sufficient number of Europeans for Wynaad, but I cannot of natives, without the 5th battalion. Let me hear from you upon the subject, what are the intentions of Government.'

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

' MY DEAR COLONEL,

' Camp at Yepulpurry, 12th Sept., 1800.'

I have just received a letter from Government, dated the 27th of August, and another private letter from Webbe; by the former of which I am ordered, at all events, to remain some time in the Marhatta territory; and by the latter the cause of this order, and the nature of the negotiations now

pending at Poonah and Hyderabad, are explained. Of course the order must be obeyed, and I shall take up a convenient position in front of Savanore, I now think, on the borders of Soonda, in order to get rice; but it will be necessary that exertion should be used to force on our brinjarries, &c. It would be very desirable that they should bring a larger proportion of rice, and a smaller of dry grain: they have latterly brought little else than gram; and as for Bowser's brinjarries, about whom so much boast has been made at Hyderabad, they have brought nothing but dry grain, and that chiefly jowarry. There has not been a grain of rice in Colonel Bowser's camp that I have not supplied him.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘*Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘Camp at Yepulpurry, 13th Sept., 1800.

‘Ball Kistna Bhow came to me yesterday, and urged me in the most pressing manner to give an asylum to his family in the Mysore country. He seemed to wish for a place of safety for them at Chittledroog; and I promised him to write to you upon the subject, and to request you to mention it to Purneah.

‘He says that it is certain that as soon as we withdraw from the Savanore country Scindiah will enter it, and will destroy the whole of the Bhow's family; they are determined to oppose him as well as they can, and they are desirous that their families should remain under our protection.

‘To this measure I see no objection, particularly as we have reason to believe that the Peshwah secretly favors this family; and as it appears to be the intention of Government either to come to an arrangement at Poonah, which will drive Scindiah to Hindustan, or to interfere in the Marhatta politics in such a manner, that he and his Frenchmen shall be kept away from our frontier.

‘The Bhow again yesterday said that something was brewing at Poonah, and that the Peshwah was determined to shake off Scindiah, and had intimated to Appah Saheb his wish that he should increase his forces to the utmost extent

possible. He hinted that their intention was, when they should have placed their families in safety under our protection, to go with their light armies to join Amrut Rao, who, they say, is collecting troops at or near Bassein.

‘I hear that the treaty at Hyderabad is concluded, and I am in momentary dread of receiving an order to detach thither the troops which are to form the increased subsidiary force. I have only 1892 Coast and 1200 Bombay sepoy, and I am sure you know that Mysore cannot afford another. I have been obliged to do all the duty of convoys, &c., by means of Marhatta and Mysore cavalry and peons; and if I had not done so, my battalions would probably on a march have shown about 100 men each. I have written to Webbe, however, upon the subject, have stated the impossibility that I should be able to make these detachments, and perform the other services pointed out for me, and I hope that he will adopt some means of procuring the additional subsidiary corps without calling upon me.

‘Ball Kistna Bhow says, that all eyes at Poonah are directed to this army, and that our movements from this time forward will have great effect in determining Scindiah’s.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘*Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘P.S. I have omitted to mention to you that I have received a report from Colonel Stevenson, stating, that on the 10th he had come up with the only two remaining pieces of cannon the enemy had, baggage, camels, bullocks, &c., brinjaries, &c.; that he had taken, dispersed, and destroyed the whole. The cannon belonged to the Soorapoor polygar, and were destroyed in his country. Thus the business has been completed.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘Camp at Yepulpur, 14th Sept., 1800.

‘I have received your letter of the 8th. Purneah’s observations upon the harvest in Bullum had already occurred to me, and my idea was to destroy it, if Kishnapah Naig should refuse to settle matters with Purneah, when I should approach his country with my troops. The fertility of Bullum,

and the constant intercourse between that district and Koorg, to which it will be impossible to put a stop, is what constitutes the difference between Kisanpah Naig and the Pyche Rajah, and render it more desirable to come to an arrangement with the former than with the latter. If we destroy the harvest in Bullum this year, Kisanpah Naig will still find means of subsistence, and we must perform the same operation in the next year. The Pyche Rajah, on the contrary, has no communication with Koorg, and draws all his subsistence either from Mysore or from Malabar, countries in our possession. Means might and ought to be taken by the Commissioners to stop the trade in grain between the coast and Wynaad, and thus the Pyche Rajah would be much distressed. But I am afraid that the destruction of the harvest in Bullum will do no more than create a temporary inconvenience.

‘When I thought that the success of the 10th instant would enable me to return to Mysore immediately, I turned over in my mind the propriety of halting the 12th regiment and the 2nd battalion of the 5th, in order to form a part of the corps which should operate upon Wynaad from the Mysore side. It appeared that when I should go so far to the southward, I ought not to leave the northern frontier so much exposed as it has been lately, and that when I should have provided sufficiently for the strength of this frontier, I should not have a body of troops such as, in my opinion, ought to be collected to be sent on the expedition to Wynaad. However, upon looking over my papers regarding the relief of Montana, I found that at that post they had provisions only for fifty two days from the beginning of August, and therefore that measures ought to be taken as soon as possible to throw in a further supply. I recollected that in one of the papers sent to you by the Commissioners, it was stated that the post must be relieved again before October, and that a large body of troops ought to be collected for that purpose; and I referred to a private letter which I have received upon the subject from Disney, who was at Telli-cherry, in which he tells me that the troops employed upon the last occasion did not behave as grenadiers ought. I therefore determined, at all events, that as Government had

sent these corps to Mysore merely to enable me to oppose the Pyche Rajah, they should go, in the first instance to Malabar, even if the arrangements to be made to provide a sufficient force for the northern frontier, while I should be to the southward, should oblige me to bring them back to Mysore, in order to form a sufficient detachment to enter Wynaad.

‘ You are now in possession of all my reflections upon this subject, and of the considerations which induced me to allow those corps to march to Malabar, even although I thought it probable that I should want them in Mysore, for the very purpose for which Government sent them to me. You are nearer the scene of action, however, than I am; you must have had later intelligence from Malabar than I have, and must be a better judge whether it will be necessary that those corps should descend the ghauts, in order that Montana may be relieved. If you should think that they ought, allow them to march on according to the orders they have already received. If you should not think it necessary, send the enclosed letters to Lieut. Colonel Harcourt and to Colonel Sartorius; and upon hearing from you that you have done so, I will transmit further instructions to Lieut. Colonel Harcourt.

‘ But, to tell you the truth, I do not think that we shall ever make any hand of Kistnapah Naig till we can bring the army into his country, and can spare troops to establish in it a post of our own.

‘ Another mode of providing troops for Malabar occurred to me, but that again is attended with great inconvenience: it is, to send them from Canara, where matters are now tolerably quiet. But they suffered so much inconvenience from detaching their old soldiers upon the attack and fall of Jemalabad, that I am afraid I should get nothing at present but the recruits. I will speak to Lieut. Colonel Montresor respecting the man for McKenzie. I have been detained here this day on account of a violent fall of rain last night, but I march to-morrow.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Colonel Sartorius.

‘SIR,

‘Camp at Yepulpurry, 14th Sept., 1800.

‘I have been under the necessity of ordering the 12th regiment and the 2nd battalion of the 5th to halt at Serin-gapatam, if they should still be there, or to return thither if they should have marched from thence, according to my former orders, as it is necessary that they should remain in Mysore.

‘You will therefore provide for the relief of Montana without the assistance of these corps.

‘I have the honor to be, &c.

‘Colonel Sartorius.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to the Right Hon. Lord Clive.

‘MY LORD,

‘Camp at Nowly, 16th Sept., 1800.

‘I have this day had the honor of receiving your Lordship’s letter of the 9th instant.

‘My letter to the Chief Secretary of Government, of the 12th instant, in answer to his letter of the 27th August, will have informed your Lordship that, in obedience to your orders, I should remain in the Marhatta territory; and I shall look forward to the measures to be further adopted, in case of the occurrence at Poonah of either of the two events which the Governor General thinks possible at the present crisis.

‘It does not at present occur to me that any place, excepting Darwar, would be of any service to me in the operations which may be necessary. I wrote to Lieut. Colonel Palmer to request that he would obtain an order from the Peshwah to have that post given over to my charge, in case of either of the events against which your Lordship is providing.

‘I imagine that the arrangements which I have already made of the country which has passed through my hands in the course of the contest with Dhoondiah Waugh, viz., to give it over to those who had possession, and who enjoyed its revenues previous to his rebellion, is perfectly agreeable to the Peshwah’s wishes and to the laws and customs of the Marhatta empire. I know from Lieut. Colonel Palmer that

it was agreeable to his Highness to have these countries delivered to the sons of Pursheram Bhow, and I believe that their possessions in the provinces of Darwar and Savanore were never confiscated. Those which they had north of the Kistna, at Meritch and Tasgaum were confiscated, as Lieut. Colonel Palmer says, in consequence of the violence of Scindiah; the latter were, I understand, strictly military jaghires; the former were given to Pursheram Bhow as payment of a debt for expenses incurred in the former Mysore war; and I am informed, and it is probable, that of these they have never been deprived.

‘Those parts of the Marhatta territory in which I have been, which are not, as I have above described, in the possession of the family of the Pursheram Bhow, are either the jaghires of other chiefs, who have, or ought to have, bodies of troops in the service of the empire, which are maintained from the produce of the lands, or they are divided among polygars, who pay a peshkash to the Peshwah, or to the jaghiredars; or they are immediately to the Peshwah, and the revenue is paid by the officers of the Poonah sircar: but they are not either for the payment of different garrisons, or for the army of Goklah, upon the whole amount of the peshkash due by each polygar, and upon the whole amount of the revenue of the sircar, not granted to the family of the Pursheram Bhow or to the jaghiredars.

‘In the course of the campaign in the Marhatta territory, I delivered over to each individual that which belonged to him, and to the officers of Government those districts belonging immediately to the Peshwah; and by this arrangement I secured the tranquillity of the country, and its resources, which was all that I could desire.

‘I do not apprehend that any inconvenience will arise hereafter from an adherence to this system; or that it will give reason to the friends of Bajee Rao to doubt of the sincere disposition of the British Government to act effectually in his behalf; and I am afraid that the adoption of any other system would deprive me of the cordial co-operation and assistance of those chiefs who have acted with me hitherto, would create doubts generally of our views, and

* Orders on the collectors of the revenue.

that I should be obliged to break up my force into detachments, in order to secure any new arrangement of the country which I might make.

‘From what I have above mentioned of the state of these countries, your Lordship will observe that I should have no chance of procuring from them any supplies of money or of provisions (excepting for payment) if I were to call for them.

‘The revenue in the Marhatta territory, particularly since Dhoondiah’s rebellion, is collected only by force, and I should get none of it, excepting by making detachments from mine. But it is all appropriated to particular purposes, either to pay a debt, to pay jaghiredars who have troops in the service of the empire, or to pay the Peshwah’s troops and garrisons. These, I must observe, are considerably in arrears, and all the chiefs have come to me at different times to request to borrow money to satisfy their demands. Thus it is probable that I should find great difficulty in procuring supplies from the country; and that by the demand of it, I should lose those whose assistance would be very desirable. The occurrence of one of the events expected at Poonah

‘The same facts and reasons apply to the demand of provisions; I get them sent, as I want, for payment; and I am afraid that the demand of them upon receipt would not only have the bad effects I have above attributed to the demand of supplies of money, but that I should not be able to procure them at all when wanted.

‘Excepting to call upon the Rajah of Kolapoor to prevent Dhoondiah from entering his country, I have not had any communication with him. As Scindiah’s force south of the Kistna is large, as he has lately added to it two battalions, and as it may be reinforced by the army of the Kolapoor Rajah, I wrote to Captain Kirkpatrick to suggest that, in case the subsidiary force at Hyderabad should not be employed otherwise, upon the occurrence of one of the expected events at Poonah, it might be of importance that I should have the power of calling for Lieut. Colonel Bowser’s detachment, and, therefore, I request that it may be left in the Dooab under my orders.

‘I have the honor to be, &c.

‘Right Hon. Lord Clive.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Nowly, 17th September, 1800.

‘ I have received your letter of the 11th, and I have spoken to Captain Mackay respecting the bullock man, to whom he writes by this post. All the superannuated bullocks are at the grazing ground near Seringapatam.

‘ I enclose you the copy of a letter from the Military Board to Government, upon which my opinion has been called for. All the places mentioned therein ought to have stores of rice, if they are to be kept as garrisons; but in my opinion Cowleydroog ought to be destroyed, as ought Chandergooty, and the dépôts of grain for this frontier ought to be at Hurrayhur and Hullahall. I admire the attention to economy in the Military Board, which doubtless induces them to lay all the expense and trouble of storing the grain on the Rajah's dewan. I shall give Government a hint upon this subject in my answer to their letter; and shall leave it to you to fight the battle, in order to throw all the Company's concerns off the shoulders of Purneah.

‘ I enclose the duplicate of a secret dispatch from Colonel Kirkpatrick, which will point out that it is probable that we must look for the means of establishing dépôts at stations much more forward than are thought of by the Military Board. I have received one of a similar tendency from Lord Clive, of which most probably a copy has been sent to you.

‘ I shall remain in preparation in the Marhatta territory. I have written to Kirkpatrick to recommend that I may have the power of calling for Lieut. Colonel Bowser's detachment, if it is not intended that the whole subsidiary force should act in case of the occurrence of one of the events expected at Poonah. I have written to Palmer to request that he will ask the Peshwah for an order to the killadar to give me Darwar, which order is to be delivered into his hands only in case of the occurrence of one of those events.

‘ I expect one lac of pagodas in silver from Madras, which will pay the troops in November; I have besides written to Munro to know what he can spare, and I expect to get 50,000 pagodas from him; if I could besides ease Macleay of 50,000 pagodas, or Graham, it would enable me to go on till the beginning of the year. I expect Munro's answer every

day, and I shall be obliged to you if you will write to Macleod and to Captain Graham. The Rajah's monthly payments I reckon upon only as sufficient to pay the monthly expense in Mysore, and I do not meddle with them for that reason.

‘ If I do advance to Poonah, we must look out at Bombay for money and other supplies in the beginning of the year, and I have all the arrangements ready for that purpose.

‘ As to money from the Marhatta territory, or provisions without paying for them, it is all a joke. The money must be collected by a military force, and I have none to spare; and if I was to attempt to take provisions upon receipt, I should probably get none for money when I might want them. Besides, the whole revenue of the Marhatta territory south of the Kistna belongs to jaghiredars, who maintain troops, to the Bhow's family, or there are tuncaws upon it for the maintenance of the Peshwah's army under Goklah, or for that of his garrisons, such as Darwar, &c. Not only I should get none of it, but I should distress and dissatisfy those who do, from whom I now receive most cordial assistance.

‘ In regard to Colonel Kirkpatrick's fears respecting the transfer of the government of the country to the Bhow's family, I have explained to him fully the nature of their claim to any part of it, and that of the arrangement, which I have made as follows. The government of Poonah granted posts of the Savanore and Darwar countries to Pursheram Bhow as payment of a debt for expenses incurred in the former Mysore war: I do not imagine that the family have ever been deprived of those possessions by the Peshwah, although they have been deprived of their military jaghires of Meritch and Tasgaum, which have been surrendered to Scindiah.

‘ The arrangement which I made was, to give over to every man that which he had previous to Dhoondiah's rebellion, and among others to the Peshwah's officers those parts of the country which belonged to the sircar, although there were tuncaws upon the revenues: of course the Bhow's family received their share of the country among others. I do not conceive that there is any thing in this arrangement to give to the adherents of Bajee Rao reason to doubt of

our real intentions to act in his behalf; and I think that the adoption of any other arrangement at the present moment would create numberless doubts, would throw the whole country into confusion, and would require an army, which I have not, to carry it into execution.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ P. S. Since writing the above I have seen Mackay again, who proposes that all his bullocks should move up the river to Tenaherra, where they were last year, excepting about 200, which must be near Chittledroog, in order to bring on the money when it arrives from Madras. He says that he will be glad to delay to give over to Purneah the superannuated bullocks till we return to Mysore. At Tenaherra the bullocks can do no harm, and will have plenty of forage, and the bullock men cannot interfere with the cultivation.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Kanagherry, 18th Sept. 1800.

‘ I have received your letter of the 14th, from which I judge that you will have been agreeably surprised at our complete success against Dhoondiah.

‘ I am rather desirous to keep the Mysore horse and peons for a short time in order to assist my convoys in case matters should turn out at Poonah as expected, and my friends here should not relish the part which we shall take. You have the power to keep the 12th, and 2nd batt. 5th, if you wish it.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ I enclose a duplicate of Lord Clive’s letter to me in case you should not have received a copy of it.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Copaul, 22nd Sept., 1800.

‘ It is wonderful that my letter of the 11th did not reach you sooner.

‘ My bazaars are most capitally supplied; I have every

thing that I can want in them. But it will be necessary to keep the grain merchants in motion towards us.

‘I have sent near 7000 brinjarry bullocks to Munro, and I hope that he will be able to furnish them with loads before long; I shall have 1800 loads of rice in the grain department; there is no want of sheep, and I have drawn large quantities of arrack from Goa to Hullihall, where I propose to have a depôt of this necessary article.

‘If we get Darwar I shall move this arrack, the rice which I have at Hullihall, the garrison reinforced by some Europeans from Goa, and some natives from Canara to the former place.

‘In a day or two I shall be able to arrange my bullock department in some kind of style. The camp equipage presses upon me sadly, and I cannot prevail upon Government to come to the determination to make the officers carry their own tents. In bad weather it is impossible to carry officers’ tents at the rate which we march.

‘We have had some very heavy rain here, and the swelling of a nullah has detained me this day. I am sorry for this, as I think that my stay here will give some uneasiness to our friend at Hyderabad.

‘Meer Allum told me that the sole object of the Court at Hyderabad now was to amass money; that for this alone they sacrificed their territory, their honor, and their troops; that they wanted to involve us in a war with the Marhattas for their security, and that when that object should be effected they would disband all their troops (of which they had but few remaining), save all their money, and depend upon us for their defence. He said that the transfer of territory to us was a great object to them, as they found they could not govern it without troops, which they were determined not to raise. He said that he had stated this to _____ upon his return from Madras, before he heard of his tricks in his family; but that _____ passions had then thrown him into the hands of Aristo Jah, and that he would do nothing.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘Camp at Cadloor, 24th Sept., 1800.

‘The reason why the brinjarrics bring so much gram is, that in our bazaars it sold for almost as much as rice did. Latterly it has fallen, and is now twenty nine seers for a rupee. The process was just this: they bought in Mysore sixty seers for a rupee, and these they sold here for six rupees. They could not have bought sixty seers of rice for less than three rupees, and they sold in general at nine seers for a rupee. You see that the profit is evidently on the side of gram. I write to Seringapatam upon the subject of the dealers in Ganjam; but there has been a system of dubashery there lately which has annoyed me considerably, and I am afraid that if it has not been put a stop to, in consequence of what I have already written to Saxon, the people, whom I have taken such pains to induce to come to the place, will leave it.

‘The grain at Seringapatam is paddy, and the operation of beating it out is slow. All the beaters are now employed in beating it, and it is sent forward to the army on the bullocks hired for the public service. If there is more rice beat, however, than there are bullocks to carry, it might be given to the dealers in Ganjam at a cheap rate, to be brought forward to the army, and I will write to settle an arrangement upon this subject.

‘I wish that my instructions permitted me to move forward to the Kistna immediately, as I should do so with many advantages. In the first place, I should cut off that detachment of Scindiah's troops, now on this side of that river, and in the next place I should be certain of the co-operation of all my allies. They are now going off, some to keep the Dessarah feast at their jaghires, and others on other occasions; and I dare not hint to them that I may have further occasion for their services, as they would immediately discover the object. Colonel Palmer says, in his letter of the 7th, “he (the Peshwah) is in a manner a prisoner in the hands of Scindiah, who has posted a large body of troops in the city, on pretence of compelling a chief, called Prittee Niddee, to dismiss a party of Arabs from his service,

but in reality to watch and control the motions of the Peshwah, whom he suspects of an intention to withdraw."

'Refer to my instructions from Lord Clive, and the letter from Kirkpatrick, and let me know whether you think me warranted to advance in consequence of that paragraph. The advantage in doing so is evident; and besides those above mentioned there is this additional one, viz., that if the crisis does not already exist (if the Peshwah is not already a prisoner or has not made his escape), I shall force it forward; and otherwise Scindiah by his position in Poonah may keep matters in that state that he will be perfectly certain that the Peshwah cannot make his escape, although he will not have found it necessary further to secure his person.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL,

'Dummul, 25th September, 1800.

'I some time ago promised Mr. Sullivan that a relation of his should be recommended for the first vacant ensigncy in the 33rd regiment, but I rather believe that he has been appointed an ensign in another corps. If that should be the case, which Lieut. Colonel Shee will know, Mr. Morris will be recommended for the ensigncy now vacant in the 33rd. I write to Lieut. Colonel Shee upon the subject by this post.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

'P. S. Upon talking with West regarding an ensigncy for Mr. Morris, I find that there is no vacancy in the 33rd: there ought to be two vacancies; but we are obliged to keep on the strength two gentlemen, whose removals from the regiment have not been approved of in Europe. I will recollect your wishes regarding Mr. Morris.'

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL,

'Camp at Dummul, 27th Sept., 1800.

'I have received your letter of the 22nd; I told you before what steps I had taken, in order to procure directions from the Peshwah to Bappojee Scindiah to give up to me the

fort of Darwar, and I am in momentary expectation of receiving Lieut. Colonel Palmer's answer to my letter upon that subject, whether the Peshwah complies with my request or does not. If I am to advance to the Kistna, I must have Darwar; and I have already made all the arrangements for getting into it in some manner or other. I have told you that I shall move thither the garrison of Hullihall, reinforced by Europeans from Goa; and that I shall establish there the supplies of arrack and rice which I have collected at Hullihall. This last place shall be given over to Mungush Rao and his peons.

' My force is very respectable, and passes for much more than it is; I have besides called upon Kirkpatrick to leave Bowser under my orders, if it is not intended that the whole of the subsidiary force and of the Nizam's army should co-operate on the north side of the Kistna. No answer yet from that quarter.

' My fingers itch to begin; I should break that detachment to pieces which has been pushed across the Kistna; should by that means gain a powerful body of allies, which I reckon upon only as so many taken out of the opposite scale, and should have the whole game in my hands immediately. If the Kistna falls, that detachment will escape to the northward; and Scindiah, if he has spirit, will collect there, and endeavor to make a stand.

' I look upon myself to be fully equal to all he can collect, if I can keep together my allies. They are of use in protecting my rear, my baggage, and my camp. If I had not had them my cavalry would have been much distressed; and yet they would not have kept off the Pindarry horse half so well as the Marhattas did in the late service. Scindiah has not got a very large body of country horse; but he will of course have some, and they would distress me much if I should have none.

' The object of the force on this side of the Kistna is to seize this country the moment that I shall withdraw from it. This is the opinion of Lieut. Colonel Palmer, and he has repeatedly so stated it. I do not believe they yet suspect our intention to interfere at Poonah.

' Believe me, &c.

' *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

' ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Saccoonda, 29th Sept., 1800.

‘ I had heard, from Mr. Warren, of the behavior of Colonel Harcourt’s dubash, and I propose to write to the Colonel upon the subject this day.

‘ A part of our cavalry, viz. a detachment of the 1st regiment, is at Coimbatoor in the Carnatic; and I am informed that many of the men have already recovered. I shall write to General Braithwaite to request that your cavalry guard may be relieved by a detachment from the 1st regiment at Coimbatoor. I think the state of Mysore will be unpleasant when we get to a distance. Seringapatam requires so large a garrison that it runs away with all our troops; if we could remove the inhabitants from the fort, one battalion would be sufficient for the garrison at present; but as it is, we cannot leave the arsenal there unprotected, and it would be so if the garrison were smaller.

‘ I have long wished to remove my regiment from thence, as they have been uncommonly unhealthy; and it is Anderson’s opinion that they will not recover till they are moved out. But we must have there an European regiment as long as the inhabitants are there; and how to replace them I know not.

‘ We have had terrible rains, and I am stopped here.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ P. S. I wish that you would take into consideration the mode of repairing the buildings to be used as granaries and provision store-rooms in Mysore. It is impossible to do it by means of the commanding officers. First, they have never been a sufficient length of time in a place to be able to do much good, and I do not see any probability that this circumstance will be altered soon: secondly, it is not to every one that I should think it proper to entrust the execution of these repairs: and thirdly, they find great difficulty, on account of the many works going on in the country, to procure workmen to repair the buildings to be occupied by themselves and their troops. This being the case it might

perhaps be possible to get the amildars to undertake these repairs (after the heavy part of the country work shall be gone through), the Company paying the expense. Turn this subject over in your mind, and let me know the result.

‘ I have written to Government respecting the formation of depôts of grain, and I have recommended that they should be at Chittledroog, Hurryhur, Hullihall, Nundydroog, Seringapatam. Those at Hurryhur and Hullihall will of course be moved forward, if all the pending arrangements are made.

‘ I have scouted the notion of throwing all the expense of the depôts on the Rajah and the trouble on his servants, on the ground of the inexpediency of allowing the servants of one government to have any interference or connection with the concerns of the other; and have recommended that if the expense of forming depôts for the Company's troops is to be paid by the Rajah, it may be a separate transaction, to be arranged in the usual manner; but that the depôt may be formed by, may be in charge, and be disposed of by the Company's servants.

‘ I have recommended all that you desired for Chittledroog. I have given orders to have the troops moved from Chundergooty and Cowleydroog, and I have desired the officers in charge to deliver the forts, provisions, stores, &c. to the amildars, taking their receipts for the same. I shall be obliged to you if you will mention this to Purneah. The provisions and stores in both these forts belong to the Rajah, according to the arrangement of Government made last year; but I think that Purneah will do well to dispose of or remove them.

‘ I think that a breach ought to be made in Cowleydroog. It borders upon the Polygars; as long as we hold Nuggur it can be of no use; and if it is kept in repair, those circumstances which might render it necessary that we should occupy it with troops, would render it very inconvenient to spare any for that purpose. However, it is an ancient place about which prejudices may be entertained, and at all events the palace must be kept in repair.

‘ I wrote to Purneah a letter in Persian, in which I recommended his three officers now with me, but particularly

called his attention to Govind Rao. The reason is only because he is not so high in the service as the others; for I have had every reason to be pleased with them all.

‘I see that I have made my postscript longer than my letter.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Camp at Nalloody, 1st Oct., 1800.

‘I have received a letter from Webbe, dated the 25th September, in which he informs me that he has written to Lieut. Colonel Mackay, to desire him to halt at Seringapatam with his corps. It is intended that it should form a part of the Nizam’s subsidiary force; and Webbe proposes that it should march through the newly ceded districts to join Lieut. Colonel Bowser in the Dooab, as soon as the completion of the new treaty at Hyderabad shall be commenced at Madras.

‘I propose to send orders to Lieut. Colonel Mackay to move up to Chittledroog, and he can then move to Anagoondy and join Lieut. Colonel Bowser whenever that may be thought proper.

‘It appears not to be intended to attempt to make any great effort against the Pyche Rajah in this season; and I am therefore clearly of opinion that the 12th regiment ought likewise to be stopped. They will certainly be wanted in the Mysore country for one of the many objects in view; and as the 88th regiment is expected in Malabar from Bombay, the 12th regiment will not be much wanted there. If you should agree in opinion with me, I shall be obliged to you if you will forward to Lieut. Colonel Harcourt, as soon as possible, the letter which I enclose for him. At all events, Lieut. Colonel Harcourt is too late to relieve Montana, if, as we imagine, that post now wants relief.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Camp at Nalloody, 2nd Oct., 1800.

‘I received your letter of the 27th yesterday, and the other to the 29th in the course of last night.

‘ I am obliged to you for the arrangements respecting grain. I will take care that the dealers shall not be detained in camp one moment.

‘ Some settlement regarding the camp equipage is absolutely necessary. I am now obliged to take 300 bullocks from the grain for that department, and the whole number now provided for it since the end of July is 1200. This falls entirely upon the grain.

‘ As soon as you hear from Webbe, that the money will be sent into Canara by one of the ships of the squadron, Munro may be desired to send up to Nuggur a sum proportionate to that which will be sent round. I will give orders to have every thing ready at Nuggur to forward it to the army.

‘ The history of Captain ——’s conduct is quite shocking. A particular caution was given by me to Lieut. Colonel Mignan, when I desired him to send these troops through the Rajah’s country; which caution I conclude he gave to Captain ——. There is no remedy for this conduct, excepting to bring this gentleman to a Court Martial as soon as possible; and I shall be obliged to you if you will write me a public letter upon the subject.

‘ The bygarry system is not bearable: it must be abolished entirely, or so arranged and modified as to render it certain that the unfortunate people employed as coolies are paid, are not carried farther than their usual stage, and are not ill treated. When all that is made certain, it will be found cheaper and more convenient for these gentlemen to hire coolies than to trust to the chance of procuring brinjarries on the roads, and there will be but little call for the latter. In truth, the public service but seldom requires the brinjarries: I know of no instance in which they have been required, excepting by the Bombay troops, who have nothing of their own, and are unwilling to pay for what they get belonging to others. It seldom happens, also, that individuals want them: and when a want of them does exist it is generally to be attributed to the laziness, the neglect, or the misconduct of the person who suffers it. In my opinion, therefore, the system may be abolished without inconvenience; but, in any event, it may be modified, and people may be prevented from calling upon the country for brinjarries whenever they think proper.

‘ Besides Captain ———, I have another Bombay gentleman in my eye, who has lately come through this country with a convoy of arrack, and I suspect played the same tricks; that is to say, never paid the people pressed and employed by him in the public service. I have desired that inquiries may be made upon the subject, and if I find my conjecture to be founded I shall try him at the same time with Captain ———. ’

‘ I informed you yesterday that Webbe had written to Lieut. Colonel Mackay, to desire him to halt at Seringapatam; and as the 12th would certainly be too late for the relief of Montana, and the 88th are coming down to Malabar, I requested you to forward the letter I sent you some days ago to Lieut. Colonel ———. I received last night a letter from that gentleman (from whom and of whom I have received nothing but complaints since he entered the Mysore country), in which he informs me, that as Webbe’s letter to Colonel Mackay was private, and as the orders to halt the 2nd of the 5th had not come through him, he should not allow Lieut. Colonel Mackay to halt, but would march on the 30th, according to the orders he had received before from me. I have written to him this morning, to desire him to halt immediately, and to return to Seringapatam if he should have marched, and to allow Lieut. Colonel Mackay to obey any orders he may receive. ’

‘ I think it probable that Lieut. Colonel Mackay will have refused to obey his order to march; and if so, we shall have a fine kettle of fish at Seringapatam; but, in any event, I don’t think the Government will pass over his refusal to allow an officer to obey their orders, although conveyed in a letter beginning ‘ Dear Colonel.’ I find that his dubash is a fellow, by name Saunmy, who had formerly been dubash to poor Aston, and who, when I was with the army last year, came up to Seringapatam, under pretence of being my dubash. He plundered the country all the way up, and, when arrived at Seringapatam, began the old dubash tricks, to turn people out of their houses, to threaten others in various ways with his and my displeasure, in case they did not conform to his wishes in every respect. At length I heard of him, and wrote to Colonel Sherbrooke, to

desire him to turn him out of the town, and of the Mysore country.

‘ If the Colonel does not dismiss him from his service after what I have written him, and the perusal of the papers from Ooscotta, &c., which I have sent him, I shall be obliged to order him to send him away. There is an officer of reputation and rank in the army, of great family connections, &c. &c., ruined in his outset by the scum of the earth.

‘ I am obliged to you for your sentiments in answer to my letter of the 24th. I have already written to Lieut. Colonel Palmer to request from him the earliest and most accurate intelligence regarding the crisis wished, and waited for; and I conclude, that the Governments of Bengal and of Fort St. George will have given him directions to communicate to me every thing that passes. But I suspect that the communication between Colonel Palmer and me, and indeed that between him, and all other parts of India, has been interrupted. I do not find that Captain Kirkpatrick has heard from him since the 7th of September, the date of the last letter I received; Ulthoffe certainly has not; and I suspect that the Government of Fort St. George has not received a letter from him even of so late a date as that, as Webbe does not mention the state of Poonah (as described by Colonel Palmer) in his letter to me of the 25th of September, received yesterday.

‘ I will write to him, however, as you propose. There are two circumstances which induce me to wish not to begin, as you propose, by advancing to the Gutpurba, under the pretence of seeing how matters stand with my friends the Polygars, to the northward of that river. In the first place, when I do advance to the Kistna, I must look forward to the further operation intended, and must make my arrangements accordingly. • One of the most important of these is to get possession of Darwar. If I go forward, upon the pretence under consideration, I cannot take possession of Darwar in the name of the Peshwah; indeed I do not see in what manner I could demand that place, without declaring war against the whole Marhatta race. If I go forward, without having possession of Darwar, I must either return to take it, or I must make up my mind still to go forward without

having it in my possession. Either would, in my opinion, be attended with infinite disadvantage to the operations which are intended hereafter.

‘ Secondly, the reason for not making the conduct of Scindiah towards my friends, north of the Gutpurba, the pretence for moving to that river is, that I find that Scindiah is strictly right in having taken possession of their places. They are dependent upon the jaghire of Meritch and Tassaum, which has been granted to him by the Peshwah; and although it would have been more generous to desist from taking possession of their countries till another opportunity, he had a right to them, and must eventually have taken them. Under these circumstances I am afraid, that to pretend to move to their assistance will have the effect which Government are most desirous I should avoid. It will give to the Peshwah's friends doubts, whether our intentions are to assist him, or to reinstate in their former power the family of Pursheram Bhow. For these reasons, which I think will also be conclusive with you, I deem it better not to advance till the crisis arrives, which is expected. It may certainly fairly be said, that when a man's capital is in the possession of the troops of another, all his friends imprisoned, and his own person only not under restraint, he is under the power of that other. But the danger of acting upon the state of affairs, as they are now at Poonah, arises from the indecision, the weakness, and duplicity of the Peshwah's own character. To these bad qualities I attribute the strictness of the orders which I have received, viz., to advance only in case he should be in confinement, or should fly. Suppose him not to be in confinement, and that I were to adopt the measures proposed by Government, were to take possession, in his name, of all the countries south of the Kistna, and to place garrisons in those situations most convenient to my operations; and that he were to fly off and to declare that I had no authority from him, that I was an enemy, and was to be treated as such, Government or I would be in a scrape, from which it would be difficult to extricate either of us. In truth, if the Peshwah is not in confinement he has the power to call for our assistance; and if he does not call for it, we have no right to force it upon him. By the same reasoning, if, as long as he has the power, he omits to con-

clude with us that treaty so advantageous to him, and so often offered, we ought to suspect his sincerity, and ought not to interfere in his affairs till the last extremity. From all these reasons then, in my opinion, I ought not to move till the crisis is certain.

‘ I have spoken to Mackay regarding his bullocks near Seringapatam. There are on that grazing ground 500, mostly old and unfit for the service; they are placed between the road to Periapatam and the river Cauvery, therefore far north of the probable haunt of the Nairs. Mackay says, however, that if there is any danger they may as well be moved; and proposes a place for them on the north side of the river, also near Seringapatam, where they were heretofore.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

To Lieut. Colonel Palmer, Resident at Poonah.

‘ SIR,

‘ Camp at Hoobly, 3rd October, 1800.

‘ I had yesterday the honor of receiving your letter of the 15th of September, which was opened in Scindiah’s camp, on this side of the Kistna.

‘ I conclude you have been furnished with a copy of the instructions which I have received from the Right Hon. the Governor in Council of Fort St. George.

‘ I am directed to maintain my position in the Marhatta territory till one of two events expected to occur at Poonah takes place, when I am directed to adopt the farther measures pointed out in my instructions.

‘ There will be no difficulty in acting in case of the occurrence of one of the events. If the Peshwah flies from Poonah, there can be no ambiguity in that step; and I shall immediately know in what manner I am to act. But it will be difficult to judge at what time his person is imprisoned.

‘ When you wrote to me on the 7th of September that Scindiah had occupied Poonah with his troops under pretence of disarming a party of Arabs, but really to watch the Peshwah, and to prevent him from making his escape, which his Highness meditated; and when I heard from other quarters that guards had been placed over the houses and

persons of all his Highness's friends and adherents; and all that could be said in regard to the Peshwah was, that he was not immediately under a guard, I concluded that the crisis was nearly arrived, and I expected every moment to receive further intelligence which would enable me to act.

‘ But I now find that on the 15th the crisis was farther removed than it was on the 7th; and it is desirable that I should receive from you a statement of your sentiments regarding this part of my instructions.

‘ At what time am I to understand that the Peshwah is in imprisonment? The difficulty which occurs in the decision of that question arises from the wiliness of Scindiah, and from the weakness and duplicity of his Highness's own character. When I received information that Scindiah had possession of the city, by introducing there his troops, and posting guards over the Peshwah's adherents, and had most probably taken possession of all the avenues to his Highness's palace, I should have had no scruple of acting immediately as I was instructed, only that there was reason to fear that his Highness would disavow every thing that I should do in his behalf.

‘ I conceive that this duplicity in his Highness's character is the cause of the strictness with which my instructions are worded. In truth, if his Highness is at liberty at all, he can call for our assistance if he wants it; and it may not be deemed assistance if it is given to him before it is called for. What, then, is the degree of *duresse* which is to constitute imprisonment? My opinion is, that when the secret provisional commission commences to exercise its functions, when Amrut Rao and the Peshwah's friends think that it is necessary for them to take a decided part for the restitution of his authority, I ought to begin to act, whatever may be the degree of restraint in which his Highness's person is held. I do not conceive that it will be safe or proper to do so in any other case, excepting when I hear that there is actually a guard over the person of the Peshwah. I should be glad to receive your opinion upon this point.

‘ I shall also be much obliged to you if you will be so kind as to give me every information of Scindiah's proceedings, of his strength, &c. &c., in order that I may be able to act promptly, as may appear best for the public interest.

‘ It is unfortunate that this crisis has not occurred, as I should certainly cut off that detachment which has been pushed across the Kistna before it could repass that river; as it is, I am afraid that the river will become fordable, and that the detachment will find means to escape before the occurrence of either of the events which will authorize me to act.

‘ I have the honor to be, &c. .

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Palmer.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to the Right Hon. Lord Clive.

‘ MY LORD,

‘ Camp at Hoobly, 3rd October, 1800.

‘ I have come here in execution of your Lordship’s secret instructions of the 9th of September, and I propose to remain in this neighborhood until the occurrence at Poonah of one of the events expected by your Lordship. There will be some difficulty in ascertaining the exact moment at which one of them may occur. From the manner in which Scindiah has gone on hitherto, I judge that he may long be completely master of the Peshwah’s person, and may guide all his actions, and there may be no outward sign of his Highness’s imprisonment; at the same time, until there is such an outward sign, I do not conceive myself authorized by your Lordship to act.

‘ If, upon conviction that the Peshwah’s person is really in imprisonment, although he should not be actually under a guard, I should take possession of all the countries south of the Kistna in his Highness’s name, and he should afterwards disavow all I should have done, which from the indecision and duplicity of his character is not improbable, I should be in an awkward situation, from which I should find it difficult to extricate myself.

‘ If he is really under a guard, this cannot happen. Scindiah, however, it is probable will never go so far, although he will make it equally certain that the Peshwah cannot escape, and cannot act without his knowledge. Thus between the weakness and duplicity of one party, and the willingness of the other, the time of action will pass by.

‘ Under these circumstances it has occurred to me to address Colonel Palmer a letter, in which I have stated to

him my opinion of the species of *duresse*, attended by other circumstances, which will render it safe for me to act on behalf of the Peshwah under your Lordship's instructions, short of an actual imprisonment of his person under a guard.

‘ I have the honor to enclose a copy of my letter to Lieut. Colonel Palmer upon this subject.

‘ I have received a letter from Captain Kirkpatrick, in which he informs me that Lieut. Colonel Bowser's corps will remain in the Dooab, liable to be called upon by me if I should find its assistance or co-operation necessary. Captain Kirkpatrick also informs me that it is intended that a part of the remainder of the subsidiary force, and a large proportion of the Nizam's cavalry and infantry, should likewise co-operate with me eventually.

‘ I have recommended to Captain Kirkpatrick that magazines of grain, rice particularly, should be forwarded in the Dooab, and on his Highness's frontier, north of the river Kistna ; as we may apprehend want when all these troops are collected.

‘ I also take the liberty of suggesting to your Lordship the propriety of requesting the Governor General to have sent round to Bombay, as early as possible, a large quantity of rice from Bengal ; also that Mr. Duncan should be apprized of the possibility of a call for rice from Bombay, and should be requested to have all the means prepared of transporting it to the nearest situation, at which it will be most convenient for the cattle of the army to receive it. With your Lordship's permission I shall immediately communicate with Mr. Duncan on this point.

‘ I have already proposed to Colonel Close the means of procuring a supply of money for the month of December : I beg leave to submit to your Lordship that there ought besides to be one lac of pagodas at Bombay for the use of this army.

‘ I have the honor to be, &c.

‘ Right Hon. Lord Clive.’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Hoobly, 3rd October, 1800.

‘I omitted to mention to you yesterday that I thought it probable that a relief would be required for some of the Mysore dooley bearers with the army, who have been with it for a considerable length of time. A few in addition to those now with it may also be desirable.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Camp at Hoobly, 3rd October, 1800.

‘Since I wrote to you yesterday I have received a letter from Lieut. Colonel Palmer, dated the 15th September, in which he says, “the Peshwah is not at present under that degree of restraint in which he was when I had the honor of writing to you last, Scindiah having withdrawn all his troops except one battalion from the city; he is however still narrowly watched and attended by the spies of that chief to prevent his flight, which he certainly meditated, though I doubt his resolution to attempt it.” Thus you see matters are farther from the expected crisis than ever, and it behoves me to attend strictly to the spirit of my instructions. The Peshwah is just in that state from which he can extricate himself by the twinkling of an eye if he wishes it; and, being in that state, if he does not express a wish for our interference or assistance, I do not see in what manner we can give it to him.

‘I shall remain in this neighborhood between this place and Hullihall until the crisis arrives, or I shall receive orders from Government to withdraw from the Marhatta territory entirely. In my opinion I shall receive those orders. This crisis, which appears farther removed on the 15th than it was on the 7th of September, must have been expected and talked of early in August, at which time Colonel Palmer must have written to Calcutta the circumstances which occasioned Colonel Kirkpatrick’s letter to me of the 25th August. The Marhattas, it is true, are slow; but can it be believed that this plan of the Peshwah’s, this secret commission, and all these arrangements which have been talked of at Poonah

for the last two months, have not come to the knowledge of Scindiah, and that he has not taken every measure in his power to prevent their accomplishment?

‘It appears now by Lieut. Colonel Palmer’s letter, that the Peshwah has never signed the grant of the jaghires of Meritch and Tasgaum to Scindiah; and the Colonel tells me that he has remonstrated strongly against the violence used towards my friends north of the Gutpurba. I neither know nor care what the result may be.

‘The Peshwah’s conduct in the affairs of these jaghires shows clearly his duplicity, and his fear of our influence. When first pressed on the subject by Colonel Palmer at my instigation, he would not listen to our proposition to restore these jaghires to the Bhow’s family, but swore that he had been forced by Scindiah to surrender these possessions to him. He at the same time told Colonel Palmer that he had secretly encouraged the Bhow’s sons to oppose Scindiah in his attempt to take possession of them. It now turns out that he has never given them to Scindiah. At Scindiah’s solicitation he has sent an order (as Colonel Palmer says) to the Bhow’s family to give up to the Rajah of Kolapoor the fort of Manowly; at the same time Colonel Palmer says he has sent them secret orders to resist that which Scindiah has got to deliver the fort to the Kolapoor Rajah, and to assert that they have my direction to maintain possession. How is it possible to account for this system of deceit?

‘This appears to be a magnificent place.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘Camp at Hoobly, 7th October, 1800.

‘I enclose the crime on which I propose that Captain ——— should be tried. Let me know whether it will be convenient that the evidence against Captain ——— should come to camp, as otherwise I am afraid that the trial must be delayed for some time. If it should be convenient for them to come here they shall be detained only while it is necessary.

‘I knew that Colonel Harcourt would be too late for the

relief of Montana. I have received from Colonel Sartorius a letter of the 27th September, by which it appears that the operations were going on well, and that but little loss had been sustained. No news from Poonah.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to the Right Hon. Lord Clive.

‘ MY LORD,

‘ Camp at Hoobly, 9th October, 1800.

‘ I have had the honor of receiving your Lordship’s letter of the 2nd instant, and I am prepared to proceed to whatever point your Lordship may order me, or to make such detachments as you may think proper. The acquaintance which I have obtained in the late war of the characters and views of the Marhatta chiefs in this part of the empire, renders it my duty to state to your Lordship the effects which are to be apprehended from weakening, to any degree, this body of the troops, by whose exertions we hope to accomplish all that is wished at Poonah.

‘ The object appears to be to establish the legal power of the Peshwah over the Marhatta empire. In order to effect this, Scindiah must be removed to his own territories. It is not to be supposed that he will relinquish all that he has been endeavoring to obtain for the last four or five years without a contest; and all the chiefs of the Marhatta empire look to the event of this expected contest with the utmost anxiety. They will join the one party or the other, according to their own ideas of their relative strength, and of the chances of ultimate success: and in case of our interference, which is not expected, the question with them will be, whether our force employed is sufficient to get the better of that which will be brought against us by Scindiah.

‘ It therefore appears necessary that, at least at first, the interference of the Company should be by the means of a powerful body of troops, such as will convince the whole Marhatta empire of our firm determination to attain our object, and to establish the Peshwah in the enjoyment of the whole of his legal authority. The force which I have at present under my command in the field, consists of 690 European dragoons. 975 native cavalry, 142 British artillery.

1160 British infantry, 3538 Native infantry, including sick, present and absent, of which there are but few. This force, with the assistance which may be expected from the subsidiary troops at Hyderabad, will be fully sufficient; but any diminution of it, or any detachment made to other parts of the Company's territories, will occasion doubts of our intentions to adhere steadily to our object till it is accomplished.

‘ The assistance of the chiefs of this part of the Marhatta empire is necessary to us for several reasons.

‘ First; they give protection to our convoys of provisions which must come from Mysore; if we could suppose that they would remain neuter in this contest, we should still experience great difficulty and inconvenience from the necessity of detaching our own troops from this small force for the protection of our convoys. But they will not remain neuter. If they do not join the enemy, they will under various pretences render the communication with Mysore so difficult, as to be almost impracticable.

‘ Secondly; by having them with me, the country in my rear will certainly be in tranquillity, and I shall draw from it all the resources which it can afford. The whole of the Marhatta empire is divided in jaghire among the Marhatta chiefs or polygars, as I heretofore represented to your Lordship; and each of these chiefs can command the resources of his own jaghire. The jaghiredar or polygar, who will doubt of our success, and will wish well to the cause of the enemy, will of course impede our progress by the various means in his power. This I experienced in the late contest in several instances; and it is probable I should experience it in many more in a contest, the object of which will be, in whose hands the power of the empire should be placed hereafter.

‘ Thirdly; by having the Marhatta chiefs with me, I keep so many out of the opposite scale.

‘ I may therefore conclude that, if this object is to be attained with celerity, we must have on our side the largest proportion of the Marhatta chiefs in this part of the empire; they will not come forward unless they are clearly convinced by the efforts which we shall make, that it is our firm determination to attain our object.

‘ Under these circumstances it has occurred to me to con-

sider of the means of collecting a body of troops from Mysore for the Ceded countries, which will be at least equal in size to that which I should conceive myself authorized by your Lordship's orders to detach.

‘In consequence of your Lordship's orders to halt the 2nd batt. 5th regiment, in order that it might join the subsidiary force at Hyderabad; and as I foresaw that there would be some difficulty in collecting a force for the districts to be ceded by the treaty, which augments the subsidiary force, I ordered the five companies of the 12th also to halt at Seringapatam, in order to form a part of the detachment to take possession of the Ceded countries.

‘I have reason to believe that the 88th regiment is coming to Malabar, and the 12th will be no longer necessary in that province. There are eight companies of a battalion of Bombay sepoy at Nuggur, which I would propose to relieve by a small detachment from the province of Canara, and to move the former to Chittledroog, when they should join the five companies of the 12th, and the 2nd batt. of the 5th. I would also propose to add to this detachment seven companies of the 33rd, leaving at Seringapatam only three companies of that corps. There is a detachment in the field in the Nundydroog district, which might be moved forward into Gurrumconda, and would still cover the Rajah's territories. Thus there would be twelve companies of Europeans, and eight companies of natives, besides the detachment in the Nundydroog district, and guns, which could enter the Ceded districts immediately, if your Lordship should approve of that arrangement.

‘If the Resident at Hyderabad would consider one of the corps of this army as belonging to the subsidiary force, the 2nd of the 5th might likewise remain in the Ceded countries.

‘I shall propose to your Lordship that this force should be kept collected in one body to be thrown on any point when their exertions might be necessary; and that until more troops can be spared from other services, a body of peons should be retained in the Company's service, by whose means the Collector will be able to take possession of the country, and to make his arrangements.

‘ There are many objections to weakening Seringapatam at this moment, but the arrangements which may be made at that place will, I hope, keep it in perfect security.

‘ If your Lordship approves of this plan, rather than that I should weaken the body of the troops in the field in this country, I shall give orders to have it carried into execution without loss of time.

‘ I have the honor to be, &c.

‘ *Right Hon. Lord Clive.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Hoobly, 10th October, 1800.

‘ I have ordered committees to assemble in the different garrisons in Mysore, in order to examine and report upon the state of their granaries and buildings for containing provisions. I gave these orders in consequence of a letter from the Military Board, in which they call for detailed information upon this subject. All the information which I could procure has been before them repeatedly, but they shall have it again at one view. I shall send you a copy of these reports.

‘ I am not surprised that Purneah should be desirous to have nothing to do with the Company’s concerns; the common practice is to accuse a man of being either a fool or a knave. If he is so fortunate as that it is impossible to give him the former appellation, it is certain that he will be accused of knavery. Our friend, with his sandal wood, has done no more than all his fellows have at different times.

‘ If we should not permanently keep Darwar, I shall recommend that a granary may be built at Hurryhur.

‘ I am more pressed than ever about troops. Lord Clive calls upon me to have a detachment ready to take possession of the Ceded province, and then to march to Poonah. Sir William Clarke and Uthoffe swear that the French are coming from Egypt, and want all the native infantry I have got; on the other hand, the last relief of Montana cost us 154 men killed and wounded (most of them coolies, however), and they are crying out there because they do not see the 12th and 2nd of the 5th marching into Cannanore on the 30th September, on which day they left Seringapatam. My

business is to get over these difficulties in the best manner I can, and what follows is the arrangement which I propose. In addition to every thing, I must also inform you that the fright which affects Sir William Clarke and Uthoffe pervades Bombay, where, on account of the supposed danger, the 88th, which I expected in Malabar, is detained.

‘Webbe, in a letter of the 4th, which I have just received from him, appears doubtful of the propriety of my making a detachment from my corps. I wrote to Lord Clive fully upon that subject yesterday, and told him that a contest with Scindiah for the power of the Marhatta state must be entered upon at first, at least, with a powerful body of troops, if it is intended that we should have the assistance of any of the chiefs of the Marhatta empire. If we have not their assistance, we shall want a still larger body of troops, and even when we collect them we must expect that the contest will last longer than it would otherwise. I have, therefore, strongly urged that my corps may not be diminished, and that I may enter upon the contest in such a manner as that all the chiefs may be convinced of our determination to attain our object, and punish those who oppose us, and may be induced by a sense of their own interests to join my standard.

‘But if a corps is to be assembled to take possession of the Ceded districts, how am I to collect it? In the first place there are five companies of the 12th, and then I would add seven companies of the 33rd, leaving three of that corps in Seringapatam, or, probably, according to your suggestion, the whole 33rd, leaving the 12th at Seringapatam; eight companies of the 2nd of the 5th (Bombay) sepoys now at Nuggur, which I would relieve by three companies of the corps at Cundapore, and one company at Bilghy. Besides this I have proposed that one of the native corps of this army should be considered as belonging to the Nizam's detachment, and that the 2nd of the 5th should remain in the Ceded countries, at least for a time. This I believe will be acquiesced in. Thus I shall have for the Ceded countries one regiment of Europeans at least; eight companies of sepoys, and one battalion, if the 2nd of the 5th are left.

‘Nuggur will not be weaker than it was before the posts of Chandergooty and Cowleydroog were drawn in.

‘ Besides this force, it might probably be convenient to Cuppage to be able to move forward into Gurrumconda, which would add strength to our operations in the Ceded countries. Webbe tells me that Munro is appointed Head Collector. I shall recommend to him to operate much at first by means of peons, which will be attended with a double advantage; and this corps of mine to be assembled, ought to be kept in one body.

‘ I now come to the most difficult part, which is Malabar. They say there is a rebellion in Wynaad, and we may hope, like Voltaire, that the Nairs of the Pyche Rajah may be strangled with ropes made of the bowels of those on the side of Yeman Nair: but still it is necessary to take measures for sustaining that post if possible. There is nothing that can be done, excepting to send into Malabar half of the 75th regiment from Mangalore. I gave orders upon that subject this day. Thus, then, I shall have provided for all the immediate calls for troops, excepting those dictated by the fears of an Egyptian invasion.

‘ We shall weaken Seringapatam a little, but I shall write to Colonel Saxon directions upon that subject, which I hope will prevent inconvenience from that measure. The objection I have to putting the 12th into Seringapatam, is the dubash attached to that corps, who will ruin us there completely. I enclose a letter from Lieut. Cafræ, which you may find of use.

‘ Believe me, &c.

Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘Not a word yet from Madras respecting my last proposal about money. I am rather anxious about this.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Hoobly, 12th October, 1800.

By all means take the 50,000 pagodas from Marleod, which he says will be in his hands in November. If I do not want that sum here, it will be wanted in the Ceded districts, or in Mysore. We have got in Mysore all the expensive part of the army, and we certainly ought to get some of the money to pay them.

' I have received a letter from Lieut. Colonel Palmer,

dated the 1st, in which he does not mention one word of news, nor does he notice any one of my letters written in September. He says, "The Peshwah has not hitherto made any remonstrance to me against your continuance in his dominions. I am confident that so long as he may acquiesce in your retaining such a position, you will be happy to show every attention to his wishes, that the country or individuals should not sustain any loss or disturbance."

'This does not look like calling for our assistance.

'Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to the Right Hon. Lord Clive.

'MY LORD,

'Camp at Hoobly, 13th October, 1800.

'By the last accounts which I have received of the state of affairs at Poonah, it appears that Scindiah is acting with great caution. He has put a stop to certain operations which had been commenced by his troops on the south side of the Kistna, and has manifested a disposition to be reconciled with the family of Pursheram Bhow, and to withdraw his pretensions to the possessions of that chief.

'Lieut. Colonel Palmer writes on the 1st of October;—"The Peshwah has not hitherto made any remonstrance to me against your continuance in his dominions."

'From the circumstances I have above mentioned, it appears that the crisis expected by the Governor General is far removed; and by that paragraph in Colonel Palmer's letter, I should imagine that he is not certain that the Peshwah will not remonstrate against my remaining in his Highness's territories.

'Under these circumstances I shall be glad to receive your Lordship's orders whether I am to withdraw from the Marhatta territory, if I should receive through Lieut. Colonel Palmer a remonstrance from the Peshwah against remaining longer within it.

'I have the honor to be, &c.

'Right Hon. Lord Clive.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL,

'Camp at Hoobly, 15th October, 1800.

'The enclosed extracts of Lieut. Colonel Palmer's dis-

patches to Lord Wellesley, will show you that I was not wrong in my conjecture respecting the unsteadiness and duplicity of the Peshwah. Either we shall go to war in grand style with the whole Marhatta nation, or I shall be ordered to withdraw; and in my opinion the last will be adopted. Lieut. Colonel Palmer hints that I might remain in the Marhatta territory, under a pretence of adjusting a claim of a debt from the Rajah of Kolapoor; but, first, I do not see what end that is to answer; secondly, it will be tantamount to a declaration of war against the Peshwah, which the measure is intended to avoid.

‘It is evident that his Highness is as much averse to us as he is to Scindiah; that he has now some hopes of freeing himself from the latter without our assistance, and without being obliged to make the sacrifices which we require, and, as Colonel Palmer truly says, “it is the policy of Baajee Rao to deceive every body.”

‘I write to Webbe this day my opinion of the dispatches, that orders will certainly come for me to withdraw; that it is better that I should withdraw immediately, as I shall thereby have the whole fair season before me for all that I have to do.

‘I think that, besides depriving Dhoondiah’s followers of their arms and horses, they might for a time be under the inspection of the municipality (to use a French phrase). I have long thought that it would be proper that orders should be given throughout the Rajah’s country, that no man should be suffered to pass on horseback, or with arms, through or near any village where there might be peons, without having an order from some regular authority to move through the country thus equipped.

‘I shall call for the Court Martial which you mention. Colonel ——— lately made a complaint of an Assistant Surgeon, just arrived in the country, who disobeyed his orders. The young man was put in arrest, and has since made the most ample apology. The Colonel will not receive the apology, and I am about to send him an order to join the army, to prosecute the Assistant Surgeon; so that there is an end of his career for some time.

‘I am in capital style here; I get as many bullocks as I can want, arrack from Goa, and I am thereby enabled to

hand over to the detachments to be formed for the Ceded districts the bullocks hired in Mysore, and the arrack on the road from Madras. I still want the supplies of rice, which they will get of course in the Ceded countries.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close,*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Camp at Hoobly, 26th Oct., 1800.

‘ I am rather anxious about money; wherever I may go I shall want some for December’s payment; and I do not see that any arrangement has been made by Webbe to provide for it, although it is impossible to adopt that which I proposed, as the ships of war do not go to the Malabar coast. One lack of pagodas ought to be sent to us by Golah Peons as soon as possible.

‘ I mentioned the want of money in a letter to Lord Clive; but I wish you would write to Webbe upon the subject.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close,*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Camp at Hoobly, 28th Oct., 1800.

‘ I received a letter from Webbe last night, dated the 20th, in which he informs me that the treaty with the Nizam is concluded; and he proposes that I should make my arrangements immediately for taking possession of the territory ceded to us. I, therefore, march tomorrow with my whole force towards Savanore, from whence I shall send a detachment directly to Harponelly if the Toombuddra should be fordable; if it should not be so, the detachment must go round by Hurryhur.

‘ My reasons for moving to Savanore, and there to await the further orders of Government with the remainder of the army, are as follows:—

‘ It is clear, from Colonel Palmer’s dispatches, that the Peshwah is not less adverse to us than he is to Scindiah, and that he has some hopes of being freed from the latter without our assistance. He has hitherto made no objections

to our remaining in his territory, and it is probable that he will make none, as long as he thinks that we are sufficiently strong to keep in check Scindiah's army to the southward of the Kistna; but as soon as we begin to weaken ourselves, it is probable not only that he will desire that I may withdraw, but that he will order some of his officers on this frontier to see that his wishes in this respect are complied with. I shall then be in an awkward situation, with an army unequal to offence, very forward in the Marhatta territory; and, after having overrun the country, I shall be obliged to sneak out of it.—That will not answer.

‘ If Lord Wellesley proposes that I should remain in the Marhatta territory, notwithstanding the contents of the dispatches which I sent to you, I shall be better placed at Savanore than here for collecting again; and on the other hand, if he proposes that I should withdraw entirely, I shall be so much nearer our other objects.

‘ Whether I detach from hence and remain here with the main body, or go to Savanore and detach from thence, my allies will be equally convinced that there is no intention to interfere in their affairs. Upon the whole then, in some points of view, it is better that I should go to Savanore, and in others it is equal; and, as I think I shall be there in greater safety, I move that way.

‘ I yesterday ordered the Rajah's cavalry to Hurrayhur from Rance Bednore. I shall be obliged to you if you will request Purneah to allow it to remain at Hurrayhur till it is decided what is to be done in this country. As soon as I receive a copy of the treaty, or information respecting the countries ceded to us, I propose to order the Nundydroog detachment forward as you wished.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

•
‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Camp at Hoobly, 30th Oct., 1800.

‘ I am detained here by the rain, which is violent and incessant. Munro will not be at Hurrayhur before the 7th of November at soonest; and if the rains extend to the Bednore country, not so soon. I will contrive to have a detachment

across the Toombuddra before that time, if it should become at all practicable to move.

‘ I have written to Colonel Harcourt again about his dubash, and I expect good consequences from his receipt of this last letter; I have also written to Gordon respecting victualling the troops, and I have desired him to send into the Carnatic immediately the Madras conicopoly belonging to the Madras Provision Department, heretofore attached to the five companies of the 12th regiment. As soon as I receive from Mr. Gordon his answer to my letter, requiring the reason for which he did not victual this corps on its march to Cannanore as I ordered, I shall issue the order which you proposed in your letter of the 24th, or even one much stronger if I should find that in truth the dubash drove away Mr. Gordon’s people.—This I now suspect to be the case.

‘ My allies are much dejected upon receiving information of my intention to withdraw. They, however, propose to exert themselves in their own defence, to which I have strongly urged them. It will be a great object gained, if Scindiah is really obliged to go to Hindustan, to prevent him from extending and establishing himself to the southward before he takes his departure. In this view only does it appear to me at all desirable, that I should remain within the Marhatta territory.

‘ The allies have again returned to the proposition which they made to me some time ago, to allow them an asylum for their families in the territories of the Company or of the Rajah, only that they have stated precisely their wishes.

‘ They desire to be allowed to place their families in one of the places mentioned in the enclosed paper, and that Purneah should employ one of them, or one of their dependants, as the amil of the district, for the revenue of which they would be answerable, and allow them to have their tannah in the place; if Purneah should object to giving them the management of the district in which he may allow their families to remain, they request that he will at least allow them to have their own people and peons in the place; and if he should object to that, they beg to have an asylum in any one of these places upon an assurance of protection. If it should not be convenient to Purneah that they should inhabit any

one of these places, they request that he will appoint any other for their residence which shall be contiguous to the Marhatta frontier.

‘The only reason why they wish to have the amildary of the district, and their own people in the fort with them, appears to be the fears which their women and families will have among strangers, particularly Europeans. I acknowledge that I am very anxious that they should be gratified to the fullest extent of their wishes; and I shall be obliged to you if you will mention the subject to Purneah, if you do not see any impropriety in their requests.

‘The families which will come to us will be that of Appah Saheb and his brothers, that of Chintomeney Rao, of Ball Kistna Bhow, and probably those of some of their dependants.

‘If Purneah should have no objection to allowing them to hold the amildary of the district immediately contiguous to the fort, which he might allow them to inhabit, I will inquire from them the name of the person into whose hands they may wish it should be placed.

‘I have spoken to Mackay respecting the receipt for the young bullocks. He takes them on his returns as received from you, and will send you a receipt for them by this day’s post.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,’ ‘Camp at Misserycotta, 31st Oct., 1800.

‘Since I wrote to you yesterday I have received Lord Clive’s orders of the 24th to enter the Ceded countries with my whole force. The intention is, I imagine, to keep it together till orders are received from Bengal consequent to Palmer’s dispatches, which I sent you; and I believe that hereafter, if there is no objection from Bengal, it will be broke up, and a part will operate to the westward.

‘I marched this morning, but only a short distance. The weather still threatening.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp at Misserycotta, 1st Nov., 1800.

‘ I received last night your letter of the 25th October; I am detained here by the rain.

‘ I do not propose to enter the Ceded districts by Mysore; but I assure you that my numerous followers are in such order that I might venture to produce them any where. We were a month at Hoobly; and the grain fields in the middle of the camp were not touched, and the people in the neighboring villages sent to tell me that the safeguards which I had given them upon my arrival there were no longer necessary. Lieut. Colonel Mackay will enter Harponelly from Hurryhur, either with Munro, or immediately after him. I shall enter that province to the northward with the army, if it should be possible to cross the Toombuddra below the junction of that river with the Werdah. If that should not be possible, I shall continue my march along the left bank of the Toombuddra as far as opposite Adoni; as I conceive it to be of the first importance that a strong corps should be in the centre of the Ceded districts as soon as possible, and Colonel Mackay and Munro will be able to settle the provinces of Harponelly and Anagoondy most probably without my assistance. It will be hard indeed if the Toombuddra should not be fordable by the time that I shall arrive opposite Adoni.

Lord Clive has desired me to join ——— to this army, and not to detach him on any account whatever. I have therefore ordered him direct from Chittledroog to Anagoondy, where I may expect to be: if I should be obliged to march along the left bank of the river, he must proceed along the right bank of it.

‘ I have not desired him to take any measures for settling the country as he comes along, but have merely apprized him that he will pass through a strange country, and have desired him to be upon his guard. •

‘ I am obliged to you for your information regarding the Ceded countries; I applied to ——— for some, having understood that his attention for the last years of his life has been entirely taken up by inquiries into and surveys of those very countries. In answer to my application he proposes

that I should send him a map of my marches, and all the geographical information which I have received from Bombay (which, by-the-bye, is nothing less than true); and he then promises to make a map of the whole. Into this he will most probably insert the result of his own dreams.

‘ You some time ago wrote to me about employing — — of the Bombay engineers on the survey of Soonda; and having desired that gentleman to undertake it, he has desired to have an order which would authorize him to draw surveyor’s allowances while employed on the work. Upon this subject I wish to have your sentiments.

‘ Surveyor’s allowances given to a man till he completes a survey are an encouragement to delay; and to tell you the truth, I am rather anxious that this gentleman should be employed as an engineer in the repair and improvement of the fort of Hullihall. For these he has given a plan which I have already submitted to the Military Board, and during the time that they will take to decide upon carrying it into execution, I have desired — — to make the survey of Soonda.

‘ My idea is to order him surveyor’s allowances during the time that he may be employed on the survey; and to inform him that I shall order him from the survey as soon as the Military Board shall have decided upon his plan for the reform and repair of the works at Hullihall.

‘ Do you think that this will answer?

‘ You will have heard from Webbe that I am to have the money in Canara. I shall send back Bistna Punt, peons, &c. Would not you wish that some person should remain here in charge of the Amrut Mahal?

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ I enclose a copy of the order which I have given respecting — —: also one of that respecting the employment of sepoys to seize sheep. It will be necessary that Purneah should give orders throughout the country to supply sheep upon these receipts whenever they may be required.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ Camp, 13th November, 1800, ten miles south of Copaul.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Our tappall Brahmin has written to Appah — to desire that peons may be posted up to Anagoondy from Chittledroog for the use of the army. As soon as I arrive at Anagoondy, and find that these peons are posted, I propose to take off those which I have now upon the road from Chittledroog by Hurryhur and Savanore.

‘ Hereafter I propose that Munro should run a tappall from Chittledroog by Rydroog into the Ceded districts; I write to him upon this subject. But in the mean time it is desirable that until that tappall can be arranged, and until I get more forward into the Ceded districts, the peons should be posted direct to Anagoondy as I have above pointed out.

‘ I have settled with the Amrut Mahal man to get sheep from Mysore, until we can ascertain the state of our supplies in the Ceded countries.

‘ Bistna Punt did not join from Hoobly till we had got so far as to render it advisable that he should return to Mysore through the Ceded districts. There are hopes that the river will be fordable in a day or two, and he shall go off the moment he can cross.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ Camp, 10 miles south of Copaul,
16th November, 1800.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ I have received the orders of Government to break up the army, to send a detachment into the Ceded countries, to prepare one for Wynaad, and to proceed myself to hold a conference with the Admiral upon some proposed arrangements. I shall have settled every thing to-morrow, preparatory to breaking up the army, and I shall set out immediately for Seringapatam, leaving the troops to follow me.

‘ Colonel Moneypenny stays in the Ceded districts, with the 25th, 1st, and 4th regiments of cavalry, the 73rd, 2nd, 4th, 1st, and 12th.

‘ I shall be at Seringapatam, I hope, by the 26th or 27th. I shall proceed by Hurryhur, Hooly Honore, and Chinapatam.

‘ General Dugald Campbell commands in the Ceded districts.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Anajee, in Mysore, 20th Nov., 1800.

‘ I have just received your letter of the 16th. I had before written to the Commissioners, to desire that they would send Yeman Nair to Seringapatam, and that they would address him to you, as I thought it probable that I should be absent when he would arrive.

‘ I shall be at Seringapatam by the 27th or 28th, and will talk over with you then the other points in your letter of the 16th. I have pressed Webb hard to be allowed to conduct the Wynaad expedition, and that arrangements should be adopted to render my journey to the Carnatic, and my absence from Mysore, as short as possible.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ Colonel — appears to have mistaken the troops of Cummer oo Deen for the garrison of Gurrumconda. I have desired him to try to get into the fort at all events; and if the killadar refuses to give him possession, to threaten him with the resentment of the Nizam, and with the responsibility for all the evil consequences of his disobedience of his master's orders. If he still holds out, arrangements must be made to get the place by force; have it we must, and that speedily.’

*Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to the Chief Secretary of Government,
Fort St. George.*

•

‘ SIR,

‘ Santa Bednore, 21st November, 1800.

‘ In consequence of the orders of the Right Hon. the Governor in Council, of the 9th instant, I broke up the army on the 16th, on the banks of the Toombuddra, and made arrangements, as stated hereafter, for providing a force

for the Ceded districts, and one for the proposed service in the Malabar.

‘ I sent into the Ceded districts, under the orders of Lieut. Colonel Money Penny, the 25th dragoons, the 1st and 4th regiments of native cavalry, the 73rd regiment, the 2nd of the 4th, and 1st and 12th native infantry, with six field pieces, besides the cavalry guns.

‘ I made a requisition upon Lieut. Colonel Bowser, who was still in the Dooab, for two battalions of native infantry.

‘ Lieut. Colonel Mackay has taken possession of Harponelly, and is now, with the corps under his command, on his march to Rydroog, to get possession of that fort. Major Munro is with Lieut. Colonel Mackay.

‘ Before I had received his Lordship’s orders not to send into the Ceded districts any part of the detachment which has been hitherto in the field in the Nundydroog district, I had desired Lieut. Colonel Cuppage to send a detachment to take possession of the fort of Gurrumeonda; and to post the field detachment in the Pollams, between that fort and Pennaconda. This arrangement appeared likely to be of service both to the territory of the Company and of the Rajah. I was in hopes that it was carried into execution when I had received his Lordship’s orders, and I therefore did not countermand it. I have since received a letter from Lieut. Colonel Cuppage, from which it appears that the troops in the service of the late Cummer oo Deen and of his son, had mutinied, and were disposed to plunder the country. Lieut. Colonel Cuppage likewise mentions that the troops in the fort of Gurrumeonda had mutinied, and he did not believe that they would allow the fort to be delivered over to the Company’s troops. The troops within the fort are in the service of the Nizam.

‘ Under these circumstances, I have considered it of the first importance to endeavor to get possession of the fort without loss of time, lest the troops of the Nizam and of Cummer oo Deen should co-operate to keep it from us: and; notwithstanding his Lordship’s orders, I have desired Lieut. Colonel Cuppage to urge the killadar in the strongest manner to give him up the fort, to threaten him with the resentment of the Nizam, and with the responsibility for all the evil consequences which are likely to result from his

retaining possession after he had received the orders of his employer to deliver the fort to the Company's troops.

'I have desired Lieut. Colonel Money Penny to cross the Toombuddra at the Untoor ghaut, below Anagoondy, to proceed by Bellary to Adoni, of which place and of Gooty he is to take possession. He has not got from the head aumil the orders to the killadars of Bellary and of Gooty, to deliver to him the possession of those forts, and it is probable he will not receive the orders for some time: I have therefore desired him not to delay at Bellary, but to proceed with expedition to Adoni, for the delivery of which place he has an order.

'I have supplied Lieut. Colonel Money Penny with rice, provisions, arrack for 50 days, bullocks and military stores, and money. I have arranged a communication between his detachment and Mysore, by way of Rydroog, by means of which I propose to supply him with arrack, rice, and bullocks, until Major General Campbell shall have arranged a communication with Madras, from whence he must draw the former, and shall have brought forward the resources of the Ceded districts in the two latter. I have ordered into the Ceded districts immediately for the use of the troops 50,000 pagodas, in charge of Lieut. Read, whom I have appointed Mr. Gordon's Deputy Paymaster in those countries. This officer has lately done the duty of Paymaster at Seringapatam, and is strongly recommended by Mr. Gordon.

'The remainder of the army is now crossing the Toombuddra, and will march to Seringapatam immediately. I hope to arrive at that place on the 29th, and I shall make all the arrangements preparatory to the expedition to the westward.

'I have the honor to be, &c.

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

'The Chief Sec. of Govern.'

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

• 'MY DEAR COLONEL, 'Vencaty Gherry, 9th December, 1800.

'I hear from camp that the followers are going on but badly; and as intelligence to a similar purport may have reached you, I write to inform you, that I have given a strong hint to Colonel Pater upon the subject, and I hope

that after he shall have received my letter there will be no further reason for complaint.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ I have this instant heard from Colonel Moneypehny, who had arrived, and got possession of, Bellary. He was going to Gooty, all quiet, but the Nizam's horse are going about the country squeezing what they can get. Colonel Money-penny has sent to Chittledroog the prisoners belonging to Mysore, taken by Colonel Bowser in the Dooab after the battle of the 10th of September. I spoke to you about them on the 29th.

‘ I have written to the commanding officer at Chittledroog, to desire that he will take charge of them on their arrival, and that he will subsist them at the usual rate (viz., one single fanam per diem), till he hears from you regarding them. You will probably wish that they should be delivered over to the amildar, and that some examination of them should be made before they are finally discharged. At all events, make known your wishes to the commanding officer at Chittledroog.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Trincomalee, 30th December, 1800.

‘ Since my arrival here I have received a letter from Lord Wellesley, in which he talks of going through Mysore in the next season, in execution of a plan which I proposed to him, in consequence of a letter which I received from him in November, in which he started this notion.

He proposes to inhabit the Dowlut Baug at Seringapatam, and the palace at Bangalore; and although I think it very probable that the plan will never be put in execution, I shall be obliged to you if you will now and then take a look at my house, and urge forward the painting of it: and Lord Wellesley has desired me to request that you will have the palace at Bangalore put in a state to receive him.

‘ The Admiral is not here, and I can tell you nothing of our future plans.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

MY DEAR COLONEL,

Trincomalee, 8th February, 1801.

I only yesterday received your letter of the 25th of December, which Webbe had kept, I imagine, till he was certain that I had not left this place. By the same opportunity I received a letter from Colonel Stevenson of the 16th of January, by which I learn, with great satisfaction, that matters are going on in Wynaad in the most prosperous manner, and that there was every reason to hope at that time that they would be brought to the issue for which we all wish, before the conclusion of the fair season. How much I lament, that I have not had the conduct of the operations which have led to this situation of affairs! But it is useless to regret what cannot now be remedied.

The expected call has at last been made for the co-operation of a force from India in an attack upon the French in Egypt from the Mediterranean by Sir Ralph Abercromby's army. The force called for is much smaller in European troops than that which is now collected here; and it is proposed by Mr. Dundas that it should be joined by a regiment from the Cape of Good Hope. I judge, however, that the ships in which these last were to sail from the Cape, would not leave England till the beginning of November; and if the commanding officer of the squadron pursues what is called the shortest route along the coast of Africa, he will reach the mouth of the Red Sea at Midsummer. In any event, by the other route he must come to India, he will not reach the Straits of Babelmandel till the season most favorable for a voyage up the Red Sea will have gone by. Under these circumstances, I shall have to depend only upon what I bring with me from India. I shall leave this place in a few days, and proceed to Bombay to take in some provisions, as the troops have been obliged to live upon their sea stock at this place for the last two months. I shall call upon the coast of Malabar, at Calicut, and Cannanore, where I shall hear of you, though I am afraid not from you. If, however, you should write to me, and desire Colonel Sartorius to forward your letter to Bombay, in case the fleet should have passed Cannanore, I shall receive it.

I am not without hopes that I shall be relieved from this command, and that I shall soon return to my old situation.

Lord Wellesley, in a late letter, proposes this measure, and I assure you that I shall receive my successor with great satisfaction.

‘ I am sorry to see that General — did mischief to the country ; I suspected something of the kind, when I read General Braithwaite’s order.

‘ I observe that Mofuhkar ool Dowlah is ambassador to Poonah ; and, by a late letter from Tom Sydenham, there appears some chance of settling our matters with that court. However, I am afraid of the ambassador’s temper with the Brahmins ; but if he should adopt the interest of the Peshwah as that of his employers, as is the case sometimes, there is no doubt but that he will bring all matters to bear.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to the Hon. the Governor of Bombay.

‘ SIR,

‘ Bombay, 13th April, 1801.

‘ I have the honor to inform you that all the ships having troops on board, which I have expected at this place, have arrived, received their provisions, water, &c., and have sailed towards the place of their ultimate destination, excepting one ship, the *Maria Louisa*, from which the troops have been removed, and in which it is proposed to send to the Red Sea provisions, and water, and forage for the cattle. She will be ready to sail in the course of a few days.

‘ As I commanded the expedition when it came here, and as all the ships have been revictualled in consequence of requisitions made by me, and I have had the best and most frequent opportunities of observing the manner in which the business was conducted by Captain Moor, it is but justice to him to represent to you that some of the ships were completely refitted, took in ballast, and received three months’ water and provisions for their crews and the troops embarked in them, and sailed in four days after they arrived ; that five ships, which have been added to the armament from this port, since my arrival, were equipped with six months’ provisions, &c., and the troops embarked in five days after the requisition was made for them ; and that, in short, the whole business has been conducted with regularity and rapidity, and satisfaction to myself, and to all the parties concerned. As Captain Moor was the only person concerned in making the

arrangements and conducting the details of the service, I cannot but attribute to him all the merit; and I therefore beg leave to recommend him to your notice, and to your favorable report of his exertions to the Governor General.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Hon. the Governor of Bombay.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 1st June, 1801.

‘ I have commenced the examination with the complaint from the store department, which you mentioned to me some time ago. The Lascars, &c., denied any knowledge of the letter and petition which had been sent to Madras; and when questioned as to the particular grievances alleged in the different paragraphs, they denied that they existed. They said that they had claims upon the Company for the amount of family certificates which had been unpaid, but that they did not believe that ——’s dubash had received the money from the Pay Office. The day before I commenced the inquiry I ordered —— to dismiss the dubash from his service, and from all interference in the store department; and his house was searched, his doors were sealed, and a sentry was placed over the house to prevent the removal of property. But still if there was any real ground for complaint, his influence over the people was sufficiently strong to prevent it from coming out. I have appointed Wednesday for continuing the inquiry into the state of the family certificates, and I did every thing in my power to encourage the people to come forward with their complaints, if they had any, on that day.

‘ I have besides published a proclamation, in which I have called upon all persons who have purchased stores to come forward and state from whom they have purchased them; and I have promised that no injury shall be done to those who come forward voluntarily to make a discovery; but I have stated that those who do not discover, and who shall be found to have purchased stores, shall be punished. The consequence is, that I understand that several people have come forward, and have disclosed some valuable secrets; among others, one man has stated that he bought from Colonel

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* * * between three and four hundred maunds of salt-petre. You shall hear more upon this subject as we go on.

‘ Lord Clive has consented to my plan for filling the ditch, and I shall begin that work as soon as Heitland arrives, which will be, I believe, on the 3rd of June. I spoke to Purneah this morning, and he said that he could furnish any number of cammatics we might want without injury to the country, as in reality the people were without employment. I have therefore asked now for five hundred, and if I find that Heitland arranges the work well I shall call for more. I shall settle with Butcha Rao the most convenient mode of paying these people, working them, &c.

‘ Purneah has asked me for another gun, which is the fourth I shall have given him. Send me a requisition for a six-pounder, its carriage and limber, and ammunition in the limber box. As the carriage is old, it would probably be better for Purneah if he borrowed it only at present, and if he got a gun only. Gordon will hereafter give him an excellent new carriage and limber. However, let that be as you please.

‘ I am glad to hear that you are better, but I hope that you will go to Madras.

‘ I swear in Captain Symonds on Tuesday.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ P.S. I have been obliged to alter the disposition I had made of the cavalry, and to send the 2nd regiment to Arcot, and keep the 5th regiment in this country. The General represented to Lord Clive that if the 5th regiment came it would be obliged to return here soon to relieve the 2nd which corps must go down to the Carnatic, and therefore it was best to send down the latter alone. I have besides received an official order through the Adjutant General's Office to send the 2nd.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 4th June, 1801.

‘ I have been so much taken up by the inquiry into the complaints from the store department, that I have not had time to write since I received your letter.

prove against him every thing that is bad. . . . is not quite clear, and I think that he will be broke.

‘ I received your letter about the Koorg Rajah last night ; and according to your wish I went out this morning to the ground on which the ladies were encamped, under pretence of taking leave of them, and mentioned the subject of your letter to the vakeel. He said that he would say to the Rajah what I had desired him.

‘ I have recommended that Scott should be made Commissary at Seringapatam, and Browne to act for him till he returns from the service on which he is now employed.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ There is a report to the northward that Dhoondiah is still alive, but there is no such report here. There is some fellow collecting troops about Padshapoor.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 7th June, 1801.

‘ Captain Symonds has pressed me for an opinion regarding the time to which the reference may be had for the decision of causes in his court. I wish to know what you think upon this subject. I was formerly of opinion that it would be proper not to go farther back than the 4th of May, 1799; but a better acquaintance with the subjects which will come under discussion and for decision before Captain Symonds, and a longer consideration of the question, have altered my opinion upon it.

‘ In the first place, almost all the disputes about property had their origin before the place was stormed, when the people had some property to dispute about. They are, in general, cases of deposit of the following nature: a moorman, in general, has borrowed from a shroff or chitty a certain sum of money upon a pledge of jewels of a greater value than the money which he received; the shroff or chitty either was or was not plundered (for it is by no means true that they were all plundered) of his property, and pleads that as an excuse for not paying his debt; on the other hand, the chitty sometimes has the pledge, and knowing that the moorman has no money, presses him for payment.

This outline is that of nearly every case that is likely to come before Captain Symonds, and I acknowledge that I conceive that justice will not be done if they are not decided. Of course the storm of the 4th of May, 1799, must always be taken into consideration in all questions of property which arose prior to that day; and where it can be clearly proved, or at least proved to the satisfaction of the judge, that the debtor lost all his property in the general wreck, the debt must be a matter of composition, and time must be given him for payment; but I acknowledge that I think that to consider no question of property which arose prior to the 4th of May, or, in other words, to take a sponge and wipe away all debts and credits, would not be justice.

‘ In the second place, there are some instances in Seringatam of property having been plundered by natives from natives, either on the 4th of May, or immediately previous to it. In the last year I referred a case of this kind to be decided by Ogg and Barclay, and Hubbeeb Oollah, and it ended in a composition, and a bond from the plunderer for the amount of the sum which it was fixed he should pay: such cases cannot be decided, and no evidence of facts prior to the 4th of May can be had recourse to, if questions which arose prior to that period cannot be considered.

‘ Thirdly, I believe that it is contrary to the practice of all nations to deprive the conquered of all right to property which arose prior to the conquest; and yet this would be the effect of the limitation under discussion.

‘ Fourthly, the object of the limitation is only to save trouble to the judge and his court; and as I have above shown that injustice must be the consequence, the value of the object is not equal to the evil which it will occasion. These are my sentiments upon the subject, after having long considered it, and I shall be obliged to you if you will let me know what you think about it.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringatam, 9th June, 1801.

‘ Captain Symonds has mentioned to me, that duties are levied at the different chokeys close to the island upon goods

upon the subject of the complaints made through Servitun Rao. What shall be done upon this occasion ?

‘ Yesterday’s proceedings of the Committee went more against the Commissary than those of any other day. You may recollect that I informed you that Roebuck’s house had employed people to purchase old arms, locks, &c. &c. at Seringapatam, and the steps that I took to put a stop to the traffic. ——— was acquainted with the circumstance at that time by myself, and was particularly warned to look after his people. Notwithstanding this, he sent off from the arsenal seven bandies loaded with gun-locks as soon as I had turned my back to take the field with the army; and he found out the people who were collecting old arms, seized all they had collected for his own use, paid 45 pagodas for what he seized, and never communicated to me, or to any body, one word about the matter. He threw these arms, locks, &c. into the arsenal, where they are at this moment.

‘ Besides this it has been proved that he has made Purneah pay for a large part of the arms and stores which have been issued to him upon your public requisition, and by my authority or that of Colonel Stevenson.

‘ I wish you would get from Purneah an account of all the sums of money which he has paid to * * *, and for what.

I hope that we shall close our proceedings this day; when they are closed they shall pass through your hands on their way to the Military Board, as I judge that you will be curious to peruse them.

‘ I enclose a letter which I have received from a lady; she wishes to pass for the relation of Seid Ibrahim. I have told her that I referred the letter to you, who are charged by Government with the care of this family.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

• ‘ I have not got the paper from the relation of Seid Ibrahim, but will send it tomorrow.

‘ I have received the revised proceeding of the Court Martial, which I shall send you also. The *honorable* acquittal is omitted; but the reprimand is to be *public* by

myself; still I shall send the Court Martial to the Commander in Chief.'

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

' MY DEAR COLONEL, ' Seringapatam, 12th June, 1801.

“ I send herewith the proceedings of the Court Martial and my letter to the Commander in Chief, and I beg that you will send them forward when you shall have perused them. Probably it would be most proper to delay to send you a copy of these papers till I shall have received the Commander in Chief's answer ; but if you should think otherwise let me know it, and they shall be sent to you immediately.

'I have received your letter of the 10th, which I have communicated to Captain Symonds, and in consequence he begins his proceedings immediately.

‘ Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Colonel Close.'

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

' MY DEAR COLONEL, ' Seringapatam, 13th June, 1801.

‘ I have received your letter of the 11th of June, upon the subject of the duties levied at the chokeys on the river side by the Rajah's amildars.

‘I agree in opinion with you, that the price of all articles has fallen considerably: I believe that the price of all the necessaries of life, excepting firewood and timber for building, is lower at Seringapatam than it is in the largest part of the territories under the Government of Fort St. George, and there were no complaints of a rise in price of any article in consequence of the levy of the duties in question.

‘ The question, however, does not, in my opinion, rest upon those grounds. The Government were very anxious that the article should be inserted in the treaty which prevents the levy of duties upon goods coming to Seringapatam; and I think that both parties will eventually derive more benefit from a strict observance of it, than either could derive from a partial departure from it upon the present occasion.

‘ In the conversations which you and I had upon this subject heretofore, it appeared that the object was, that Seringapatam should have all the benefit of the treaty; at the same time, that care was taken that the Rajah should not suffer in his revenues by an abuse of the exemption in favor of that place, by the general class of dealers in Mysore. With this view, it was settled that no duties should be levied upon goods coming to Seringapatam nearer than thirty or forty miles; and, that the duties at the chokeys at that distance should continue at the rate at which they were at the time that we had that conversation. I was furnished at that time with a statement of the rates of the duties paid at places at that distance. This arrangement was made to avoid one of two evils which the Rajah’s country would experience from the operation of the treaty. One was, that all dealers passing through his country would say that they were coming to Seringapatam, which would have occasioned perpetual disputes and inconveniences. The other was a remedy for the first, viz., to give to dealers really belonging to Seringapatam passports, of which it was feared that they would take advantage to oppress the country. There was besides an apprehension of other evils from placing the issue of these passports in the hands of the commanding officer.

‘ What is the object proposed in altering this arrangement? I do not see any, excepting to add to the Rajah’s revenues what he could collect upon the consumption of Seringapatam, and I do not think that it will at all compensate for the evil to both parties of the smallest departure from the treaty. What has happened already shows the necessity of adhering to it strictly. Purneah, with the best intentions, levied duties upon all articles of consumption, excepting on some kinds of grain; and although it is true that no inconvenience has been felt from the levy of those duties, it cannot be argued that none would ever have been felt from the exercise of the right to increase them, which certainly results from the exercise of that of laying them on at all.

‘ In writing my opinion upon this subject, I do it as an individual much interested in the Rajah’s prosperity; the decision upon it rests with you. In the same manner I

shall tell you what I think regarding the continuance of the Rajah's duty upon beetle and tobacco, supposing that you should be of opinion that it is proper that any duties should be levied by his amildars upon goods coming to Seringapatam.

‘The Company, for certain reasons, think it proper to raise a revenue from the island of Seringapatam; the reasons are, to pay the expense of a court of justice there established. This certainly must be supposed to be a benefit to the inhabitants, and as such it is reasonable that they should pay for it.

‘You are of opinion that if the Company's farm of beetle and tobacco is to last, the Rajah's duties ought to continue, otherwise that the Company's profit from the farm would be so much out of the Rajah's pocket. In the first place, the Rajah by treaty ought to levy no duties upon the consumption of Seringapatam; and if it were true that he would lose all that the Company would gain, he must attribute the loss to the treaty, and not to the Company's farm or their collector. In the next place, supposing that you should determine that the Rajah should continue to levy the duties, there is no reason why the collector should not continue his farm, which (by-the-bye) was established during the existence of the Rajah's duties. What is the consequence? By this arrangement the inhabitants of Seringapatam and the troops would pay two duties upon the consumption of their articles instead of one, viz. one to the Rajah, the other to the Company.

‘As the collector may find it necessary, or may think it proper to raise revenue from many articles of consumption, besides those already farmed out (and it may be depended upon that the Board of Revenue will stimulate him to levy all he can), it becomes of still more importance to Seringapatam than it has been hitherto, that the treaty should not be departed from, at least that it should not be departed from in a greater degree than you settled that it should in our former conversations upon this subject.

‘I omitted to tell you that a man had come here from Baba Saheb, and from Ball Kishna Bhow; I will send you tomorrow the purport of his conversation. It was upon the old subject,—their desire that we should join them in an attack upon the Rajah of Kolapoor, &c.

‘ Our Committee has finished its proceedings, and I hope to send them off this day. If they do go, it shall be through your hands, and I shall be obliged to you if you will forward them without delay.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringatam, 15th June, 1801.

‘ I have received your letter of the 13th; we have all suffered from a want of water lately, as the repair of the aqueduct is not yet completed, and it will take some days still. When that is finished, and, indeed, sooner, if a sufficiency of water comes into the nullah, I will take care that your garden shall not want. The nullah, when completed, will be put under Symonds; and I propose to give out an order, and to publish a proclamation to forbid that any mound should be built up in it by any body. Thus every body will have his share. I go to the Laal Baug occasionally, to see how they are going on, and I will take care that the place shall not suffer by your absence.

‘ I enclose a memorandum of the conversation with the Marhatta Vakeel, which was drawn up by Ogg, and is nearly word for word accurate.

‘ The Military Board permitted some time ago that I should give Purneah the three or four elephants which he lately returned to the karkana, under an idea that they had only been lent to him. If Purneah wants them, he shall have them, but I shall be glad to give one of them to Bisnapah. He has a kind of claim upon me for an elephant, which Govind Rao’s party took during the campaign, and which I bought for the Company for 200 pagodas. I could not give him this elephant without making a reference to Government, and should be glad to give him one of those which the Military Board permitted me to give to Purneah, provided he has no objection.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘ I have just returned from viewing our great work, and you cannot conceive how finely we get on. I expect that we shall have made great progress before you return.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Serlingapatam, 2nd July, 1801.

‘Since I wrote to you last, nothing extraordinary has occurred here.

‘Major Parkinson was ordered by the General to leave at Bangalore his sick officers and men, and a small detachment to take care of the buildings. I do not know what he has done in consequence of this order; indeed I have not yet heard that he has marched. If he should not have left a Captain at Bangalore, I shall be obliged to you to let me know whom you wish that I should send there.

‘I received orders from Government last night to send the pioneers to the southward, and to stop our great work at this place. I have written to Wilkes, however, and I hope to be permitted to recommence it under Mr. Warren. I refer you to my letter to Captain Wilkes upon this subject.

‘I am glad to find that you are recovering. I am still very well. Our winds are very sharp and boisterous, but at the same time dry. The people of the country complain that there is a want of rain.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘I refer you to a letter which I wrote to Government on the 30th, for a statement of the arrangements made for carrying on the work at the ditch; and to one which I sent yesterday to Government from Colonel Stevenson, for the news from Malabar.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Serlingapatam, 7th July, 1801.

‘I send you a letter from the General upon the subject of Mr. —’s Court Martial, and one from the Judge Advocate. I likewise send you a copy of my letter to the General upon this subject, and of the order which I propose to issue. Be so kind as to keep these papers, as I shall refer to them all in a public letter which I shall write to you as soon as I shall have closed this transaction.

‘I do not agree in the General’s notion, that because the Court Martial have thought proper to acquit Mr. —,

against the evidence, it is not in the power of Government to mark his conduct by their disapprobation. But whatever may be their opinion upon that subject, it is absolutely necessary that Mr. — should be removed from this country.

‘ I likewise enclose a letter from * * *, and one from Servitun Rao. By the latter it appears very clearly that the complaint was well founded, and so I have observed to * * *. You will be the best judge whether, after what has happened, and considering the temper in which * * * is, and the probability that it will also pervade the Court Martial, it will not be best to reprimand the naig and the conicoply, and order them to be dismissed from the guard. Let me know your wishes upon this point. If they are to be tried, Servitun Rao must be ordered again to send the people who can give evidence upon this subject.

‘ The river has risen to a greater height than it has been known to rise to for some time. It has in consequence destroyed the glacis on the southern face of the low outwork in the *finusse braie*, which flanks our breach, and I am afraid that that outwork will likewise go, if the river does not soon fall. It has also destroyed the sluices in the northern glacis.

‘ If Government do not soon determine to commence in earnest a repair of this fort, the expense will be saved, as there will be no fort to repair. Between the river on one side, and the weather on the other, the whole is crumbling to pieces, and nothing can save it but a speedy repair. I am convinced that one lac of pagodas, which could not be laid out in less than two years, would complete it. Literally nothing has been done to the fort since we came into it, excepting to repair part of the breach over which our troops marched. I say only part of it, as it is at this moment just as easy to get in at the western bastion, and indeed all along the southern face, as it was to get into the main breach, on the day the fort was stormed. I shall of course report these late disasters, as soon as the river shall fall sufficiently low to allow me to ascertain their extent; but I acknowledge I am tired of reporting where no remedy is applied.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

the order which I proposed to issue, regarding Mr. —, and the Court Martial; but I shall issue it in the course of two or three days, if I do not hear further from him.

‘The dubash has been tried, and sentenced a punishment, &c. &c., but in consideration of his having ill treated the inhabitants of Chittoor, in the presence of Mr. —, and, as he says, in his defence, by his particular order, the Court Martial have recommended that he should be pardoned the punishment. They have sentenced that he should pay all the expense of the damage he did, and I have desired that they should sentence that he should be banished.

‘I propose to publish the whole at one and the same time, and the proceedings of the native Court Martial will make a good commentary upon Mr. —’s conduct, and upon the proceedings of the Court Martial which tried him.

‘I am glad to find that you are recovering; every thing goes on well here.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘SIR,

‘Serengapatam, 22nd July, 1801.

‘In consequence of the complaints which you communicated to me, of the conduct of Mr. Assistant Surgeon —, on his journey from Sera to Serengapatam, I ordered a Court Martial to assemble for his trial, on charges founded on the complaints preferred by the inhabitants of the nearest village, Chittoor.

‘Enclosed I send you a copy of the proceedings of this Court Martial, and of a correspondence which I have had with the Commander in Chief upon this subject, from which you will perceive that I am by no means satisfied with the sentence which has been pronounced against Mr. —.

‘As it appeared that a dubash, by name Vinket Soubah, belonging to Mr. Boxley, a sutler, had been in many cases the instrument of the oppression complained of by the inhabitants, on the road between Sera and Serengapatam; and as he had been particularly active in the village of Chittoor, I thought it proper to order that he might be brought be-

fore a native General Court Martial, for his conduct in that village.

‘ I enclose a copy of the proceedings of that Court Martial, on the trial of this person, and one of a letter from the President to me. I likewise enclose the copy of an order which I have issued this day to the troops under my command.

‘ I have the honor to be, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 24th July, 1801.

‘ I have this day written to Mr. Piele, to request that he would inform Purneah that Baba Sahib's family would soon come to Hooly Honore, and to tell him that I should be obliged to him if he would give his orders to Servitun Rao to be prepared for their reception.

‘ By a letter received this day by the vakeel, it appears that the amildar lately appointed by the Government of Poonah is come into the province of Savanore, where it is no longer safe for Baba Sahib's family to remain. The amildar is backed up by young Goklah, who is now spending his leisure time in the plunder of the Chittoor country.

‘ I conclude that you will have seen my late letters to Webbe, and to Captain Wilkes, giving all the intelligence from this country. I believe that the cavalry are by this time at Cheyloor. All remains quiet in Malabar and Wynaad.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Seringapatam, 29th July, 1801.

‘ A servant of Butcha Rao's (a Moorman) lately applied to the Cutchery upon a question of divorce from his wife; and after he had been divorced, and had been informed that one of the legal consequences of that sentence was, that he was to provide for her support for a certain time, and was to pay her dower, he said he was a servant of the Rajah's.

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and desired that the case might be referred to Butcha Rao. Butcha Rao joined in this request.

‘ In the course of the different conversations which I had had with Captain Symonds since the establishment of the Adowlut at Seringapatam, I had taken opportunities of expressing to him my wish that he should be cautious in entertaining complaints of the Rajah’s servants, of which I thought it probable that many would be made in which the courts of Seringapatam can have no concern whatever. Accordingly Captain Symonds never had entertained any, excepting of the kind above alluded to. However, the claim of Butcha Rao to interfere in this case, brought a letter from Captain Symonds to me, in which he desired that I would consider and state my opinion whether, and how far, the Rajah’s servants are, and should be, liable to the jurisdiction of the court.

‘ I have done so nearly to the following purport; and I hope that this opinion, and the practice which I have recommended, will be agreeable to you and to them. In the first place, the regulation makes no exception of any persons being natives; all of that description residing upon the island of Seringapatam are liable to the jurisdiction of the courts which it establishes. It could not have been in the contemplation of the Government to make an exception in favor of the Rajah’s servants, because, in fact, it is not supposed that they reside on the island; and the tendency of such an exception would have been to confine the jurisdiction of the court to those who should choose to submit to it, and to those of whom it could be proved that they received the pay of the Company, or were in the service of some of their officers and servants.

‘ I have therefore no scruple in laying down the principle broadly, that every person being a native, residing in the island of Seringapatam, is liable to the jurisdiction of the court.

‘ I now come to consider the restrictions upon acting upon that principle thus laid down, which are required by expediency, policy, and good manners. Purneah resides in the Fort, with all his property and his family; and the principal officers of the Rajah’s Government reside there likewise. I do not see any necessity for restricting the operation of

that principle in the court of Phousdarry. It is not very probable that the persons in whose favor we might wish to restrict it, will commit crimes for which they could be tried there, and it is clear that their servants and adherents must be subject to its jurisdiction, as long as they remain on the island.

‘ The question is entirely different when the crimes are considered, which it is possible might come before the Cutchery. In the course of the administration of the Government of this country, it is not possible but that Purneah, or his officers, must occasionally do injury to, or seize private property. It would be a curious circumstance if the person whose property should thus receive injury, should have a right, by taking a house at Seringapatam, to bring Purneah into the court of Cutchery.

‘ Considering the connexion between the island of Seringapatam and the Rajah’s country, it is impossible but that questions must arise daily between the inhabitants and the Rajah’s servants residing on the island, some of whom it would be highly improper, and others it would be very necessary, to bring into the Cutchery : and yet without more experience than we have yet had of the operation of the court (of the manner in which the machine works), it is not possible to define cases so as that Government may enforce a regulation which will secure the jurisdiction of the court on one hand, and will prevent the Rajah’s principal servants residing upon the island from suffering inconvenience on the other.

‘ I have therefore proposed to Captain Symonds the following arrangement and rules for his proceedings in the cases above described.

‘ In the first place, I have proposed that whenever a complaint is made in the court of Cutchery against any of the Rajah’s principal servants, or any of his servants, for an act of Government, the matter of it should be referred to the Resident, or to the commanding officer, before any further steps should be taken.

‘ Secondly ; that whenever a dispute shall be brought into the Cutchery between two persons notoriously in the Rajah’s service, that dispute shall be referred to the Rajah’s tribunals, provided both parties consent.

‘Thirdly; that disputes regarding property in which no act of the Rajah’s government is concerned, and in which one of the parties is not one of his principal servants, shall be tried and decided in the Cutchery.

‘Notwithstanding my desire to gratify my little friend Butcha Rao, I have recommended to Captain Symonds to enforce his decision regarding the Moorman’s divorce, as there appears to be nothing in that, excepting a desire on the Moorman’s part to get rid of his wife, and to allow her to starve, and on Butcha Rao’s only a desire to oblige his friend the Moorman.

‘I hope that you are getting better. The river is rising again, and the weather is very harsh here just now.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Serlingapatam, 1st August, 1801.

‘I think it probable that you will be returning to us soon; and before you leave Madras I wish you would hint to our friends there the necessity of sending a force to this country towards the end of November, in order to enable us to undertake the Bullum business. We ought to be strong in order to be able to do it in style.

‘The river has come down again with some violence, but is not so high as it was in the beginning of July by nearly two feet.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Lieut. Colonel Close.’

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘Serlingapatam, 6th September, 1801.

‘Before I had received your letter of the 3rd, I had received the intelligence of your appointment to Poonah, which I regret much on public, as well as on private accounts.

‘I hope that you will see Malcolm before you go. I imagine that Purneah heard some time ago of the probability that you would not return to this country; at least Butcha Rao appeared to be acquainted with it.

‘ I see clearly that we shall get no troops from the Carnatic for the Bullum business in this year ; but if we are fortunate in our pursuits of the Pychy Rajah, I am not quite certain that I have not under my own command the means of settling it. I shall know more about it in the course of a few weeks. In the mean time the arrangements going on at Seringapatam to decrease the number of idle Moormen will enable me to weaken that garrison considerably for any occasion for which troops may be wanted.

‘ I find Symonds a most active and able assistant, and matters go on very smoothly.

‘ I acknowledge that I do not agree with Webbe respecting the destruction of this place. I think that he has not considered its utility in some points of view ; that he has been misinformed regarding the difference between its distance from the frontier and that of Bangalore ; and that he has overrated the additional distance occasioned by coming here. He has also given more weight than it deserves to the consideration that the depôt is too far from the frontier, and too little to the superior advantage of Seringapatam as a place of equipment.

‘ In regard to the expense, I believe that it will be equal whatever plan is adopted ; but if the destruction of Seringapatam is to be accompanied by the building of a fort in Malabar or Canara, which I believe must be the consequence, that plan will be the most expensive. The fort of Cannanore is just large enough to contain the Commanding Officer's house ; it is tumbling to pieces ; and a frigate in the roads would blow a garrison out of it. The stores in Canara are in the open town of Mangalore.

‘ Webbe talks in his Memorandum of sending stores to the Malabar coast by sea ; but when they arrive there, where are they to be kept ? and he has not considered the difficulty, amounting almost to an impossibility, of communicating by sea between the two coasts. During the months of May, June, July, August, and part of September, it is not safe to approach the western coast ; and in October, November, and December, equally unsafe to approach the eastern. During the remainder of the year the north west winds prevail so generally upon the Malabar coast, that it

is with difficulty that the best ships make their passage to the northward, as was found to be the case in the last year; and the kind of vessel in which stores are sent from Madras by sea in general, would not be able to get to the northward at all. But in truth there is such a want of carriage upon the coast, and the inland communication along it is so difficult, that the troops in those provinces must always in a great measure depend upon this country for many of their supplies.

‘Has Madras sent any one article to those provinces since they have been under its government? Medicines and military stores from Seringapatam are the only articles that have been supplied to them; and even the monsoon has not stopped the communication.

‘Upon the whole I think it fortunate that the success in Europe and Egypt gives us a prospect of a better peace, and that we have time to review our opinions upon this subject, and to reconsider the question. In a very short time Seringapatam will be to be kept with as small a garrison as any other place in the country.

‘I gave orders to Gordon to pay the bill for the repairs at the Laal Baug at the time that you sent it to me, and I understand that he had done so. I shall enquire however.

‘We are tolerably well here now. No officers sick, and but few soldiers. I attribute the healthiness of the soldiers to an improvement which I have lately made in their barracks; having built up the whole of the veranda in the Green Palace in which they are quartered.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘*Lieut. Colonel Close.*

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

‘The Court Martial is sitting on the trial of the offenders in the store department.’

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to J. H. Piele, Esq.

‘SIR,

‘Seringapatam, 30th Nov., 1801.

‘I enclose an extract of a letter which I have received from the Chief Secretary of Government, relative to the repairs of the fort at Nuggur, respecting which I had a conversation with the Dewan in your presence some time ago.

‘ I shall be obliged to you if you will procure from the Dewan the estimate of the expense to be incurred in the proposed repairs, as mentioned in the first paragraph of the enclosed extract (3).

‘ I imagine that the repairs which the Dewan proposes to give to the fort of Nuggur will not be greater than that alluded to in the second paragraph (4) of the enclosed extract; and if that should be the case, I will use the discretion given to me to authorise expense on that account.

‘ I have the honor to be, &c.

‘ J. H. Piele, Esq.’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to the Right Hon. Lord Clive.

‘ MY LORD,

‘ Seringapatam, 28th December, 1801.

‘ I enclose you a letter for the Governor General, which I have received from Sir William Clarke. That addressed to your Lordship, dated the 20th instant, which Sir William Clarke mentions therein, has not yet arrived here, at least it has not passed through my hands.

‘ The Commander in Chief will have acquainted your Lordship with the disposition of the troops in the province of Canara, made with a view to enable Sir William Clarke to hold his position. Besides these troops, I shall march from hence towards the Bullum country on the 4th of January, and shall be in readiness to move to his assistance whenever that may be necessary.

‘ I have written to Mr. Read, to request that he will take care to keep Sir William Clarke supplied with rice from the northern parts of Canara by boats; and I shall write to Sir William Clarke this day, to desire that he will bring such quantity as he may be able, to last our troops as long as their salt provisions will. As, however, Sir William has the sea open, and the province of Canara so near him, I do not apprehend any thing from the momentary scarcity and dearness of rice at Goa.

‘ I have the honor to be, &c.

‘ The Right Hon. Lord Clive.’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Harness.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Bottom of the Bhoze Ghaut,
20th April, 1803, 8 A. M.

‘ The road down the ghaut is so bad that the cavalry guns have been detained at it till now, and I think that we shall not march from hence till 9 or 10. I have ordered Colonel Macleod to halt at Lovey this day, and to join me to-morrow.

‘ The pioneers, excepting those employed in the forage business, and a battalion, must work at the ghaut this day. If Heitland is not satisfied with this day’s work, he must begin upon it again early in the morning, and you must defer the march of the line till the road down the ghaut is finished.

‘ Send on your advanced guard and a battalion to Lovey with the baggage departments, brinjarrics, &c.; the road down the ghaut will answer for them, and is sufficiently extensive; but it will require much repair to make it what it ought to be for our wheel carriages, and the march of the line and park must, therefore, be late.

‘ I shudder when I think of the dreadful destruction of the wheel carriages which there will be, on this day’s and to-morrow’s march.

‘ You will find some of my leavings upon the road. If the cavalry tumbrils which I mean cannot be repaired, the 3 pounders shot in particular must be taken out of them, and brought forward. That is a scarce article.

‘ Your march of this day will be something about twelve miles; that of tomorrow to Lovey about ten; the following day, twelve.

‘ I do not recommend a halt, as its consequence may be that some belonging to us may stay on the ground for ever.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Harness,*
74th Regt.

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL CLOSE.

‘ Ahmednuggur, 17th Aug., 1803.

‘ 1. Certain dollars have been delivered to the Poonah soucar to be coined, which he wishes to lodge in Colonel

Close's house, to be taken away by him as occasion may require.

' 2. He has engaged to pay to Colonel Close daily 6000 rupees, which Colonel Close is requested to receive.

' 3. The Chenchoonney soucar, Boodbahy Doss, has engaged to pay daily to Colonel Close likewise 6000 rupees, which the Colonel is requested to receive.

' 4. These soucars have engaged to furnish the means of carrying forward this money to the troops, the Company paying the expense. Colonel Close is requested to send forward 50,000 rupees as soon as they will be received; and so on, by 50,000 rupees at a time, till the whole shall be sent.

' 5. Two companies of the 2nd battalion of the 3rd regiment remain here to furnish escorts for this money.

' 6. 50,000 dollars are given to the Chenchoonney soucar, for which he is to deliver back 113,125 rupees and 25,000 dollars to the Poonah soucar, for which he is to deliver back 56,562 rupees. Besides these there are 10,000 dollars which will be delivered to Colonel Close, which he is requested to issue to the soucars, to be coined into rupees after they shall have finished the others.'

' ARTHUR WELLESLEY.'

*Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Campbell,
74th Regiment.*

' MY DEAR CAMPBELL,

' Camp, 7th November, 1803.

' I write only to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 12th and 14th October, for which I am much obliged to you. I regret exceedingly your sickness, of which I had heard; but I hope that the cold weather will bring you about. I wish that you would think of going to England; nothing but that can be a sufficient remedy for the disposition to fever, which you appear to have.

.. ' Your nephew Colin will write you the news from hence.

' Believe me, &c.

' Lieut. Col. Campbell, Ganjam.'

' ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Rajah Mohiput Ram.

‘Camp, 24th October, 1803.

‘ I have received your letter, and I sincerely congratulate you upon the success against Asseerghur.

‘ I had already written to Colonel Stevenson to request that he would place a garrison in Asseerghur to secure the place; and that he would give you over the country, and desire you to establish therein the government of his Highness the Soubah of the Deccan, to take possession of the tannahs and districts, establish in them sufficient garrisons, collect the revenues, and do every thing in your power for the benefit and protection of the people.

‘ It is my intention that the Soubah’s authority alone should prevail in those districts, as a division of the government must occasion weakness and confusion. Hereafter it will be easy for the Company’s government, and that of his Highness, to settle the accounts of the revenues, and the share which is to belong to each party.

‘ I have sent to Colonel Stevenson, to be delivered to you, an order from the Soubah, by which you are put in charge of the whole of his Highness’s western frontier, and in the command of his troops; upon which I congratulate you. In the exercise of the important duty confided to you by this order, as well as of that which you will have to perform in the districts under Asseerghur and Burhampoor, I recommend to you moderation and justice in all your proceedings.

‘ Intermixed with those under your charge, there are several districts and villages belonging to the Peshwah, and others to Jeswunt Rao Holkar. The Peshwah is now his Highness’s ally, and Jeswunt Rao Holkar is not his enemy. You must act with justice towards them, and not on any account interfere with them.

‘ You must take care to entertain and keep up a sufficient force, particularly in the districts belonging to Asseerghur. This is a time of war, and the resources of the country can be preserved only by having in it a sufficient force. To endeavor to collect a large revenue would be useless, and would most probably eventually occasion loss.

‘ In respect to Wahed Beg, tell him that I desire he will give you the letter addressed to you, and either bring or

send the letters addressed to me which he brought from the Maharajah's camp, and which he showed to Colonel Long.

'If he does not do that, you will do well to seize him, and send him here to me; as he has gone to you with no good purpose.

'I have already acquainted Ballojee Koonjur in writing that I have always been desirous of peace, and that if the Maharajah had any thing to propose to me, and should think it proper to send here a sirdar, he should be treated with respect and attention, and should have a distinct answer.

'I have desired Colonel Stevenson to levy a contribution on Burhampoor, in which I request you to assist him.

'*Rajah Mohiput Ram.*'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.'

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

'MY DEAR COLONEL,

'Camp, 10th December, 1803.

'Since I wrote to you this morning, Amrut Rao's vakeel has been here, and has told me that thirty sirdars and 500 of the Peshwah's Pagah horse, whom his Highness sent away when he embarked at Mhar, had joined Baba Phurkia. Baba Phurkia has lately dismissed them, (in fact he has been defeated in the Nizam's territories) and they are now desirous of returning to the Peshwah's service, obtaining a pardon; or, if that should not be granted, they are ready to deliver up their horses. They are now in a village in the Nizam's country, ten coss distant, and if the Peshwah chooses to have them, Captain Graham will be able to find out from Amrut Rao's son where they are. I enclose a list of their names.

'Besides these people, there is a body of 3000 horse in this camp belonging to Amrut Rao, which I am now paying, which the Peshwah might as well take into his service. I wish you would propose this measure to him; but if he does not comply with your proposal, I shall discharge them immediately.

'Amrut Rao has also a very fine battalion of infantry of 700 men; possibly the Peshwah would like to have that also. But I do not know whether Amrut Rao would part with it. You may sound the Peshwah, and I will try Amrut Rao. The whole expense of Amrut Rao's troops is 87,000 rupees per mensem.

'Believe me, &c.

'*Lieut. Colonel Close.*'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.'

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp, fourteen miles East from
Ellichpoor, 20th December, 1803.
‘ When the peace shall be ratified by Ragojee Bhoonslah, I propose to send Mr. Elphinstone to his camp, to act as Resident till the arrival of Webbe. I may also have occasion to request Malcolm to go to one of these chiefs, and, in this case, I shall be much in want of assistance. Malcolm tells me that you would have no objection to allow Mr. Strachey to come here, and if this be the case, I shall be much obliged to you if you will ask him to give me his assistance. If he starts from Poonah immediately on the receipt of this letter, he will meet Captain Baynes’ detachment on the river Godavary, or it will arrive there in a few days after him. I have no doubt but that Ragojee will ratify the treaty.
‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Camp, 16th January, 1804.
‘ I shall be much obliged to you if you will be so kind as to send forward, as soon as possible, all the money that you may have belonging to me.
‘ I enclose a memorandum from Jeswunt Rao Goorparah; and I shall be obliged to you if you will take care that he does not lose his jaghires, &c. He comes within an article of the treaty.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Frissell, Residency at Poonah.

‘ MY DEAR SIR, ‘ Camp, 1st February, 1804.
‘ In answer to that part of your letter of the 29th January, relative to Narsing Kunder Rao’s claims in Malwa, I have to request that, in future, after having ascertained the nature of such claims, you will state them yourself to Major Malcolm or the Resident with Dowlut Rao Scindiah, or the Rajah of Berar.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Frissell.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Liout. Frissell.

‘ MY DEAR SIR,

‘ Camp at Roora, 22nd February, 1804.

'I shall leave camp tomorrow, and I expect to arrive at Poonah on the 26th. I shall be obliged to you if you will send my letters, and those for camp, by the Hyderabad dawk, made up in a separate packet.

‘ I enclose a letter, which I beg you to send to the killadar of Loghur.

‘ Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Frissell.'

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Frissell.

‘ MY DEAR SIR,

' Camp, 24th. February, 1804.

'I find that I shall not be able to reach Poonah till the 27th, in the morning; but I shall be at Nizam Pett, about seventeen miles from Poonah, on the 26th.

‘ Believe me, &c.

'Lieut. Frissell.'

'ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to E. S. Waring, Esq., Residency at Poonah.

‘ MY DEAR SIR,

‘ Cundollah, 8th March, 1804.

‘ I have received your letter of the 7th, and I beg you to send on Antojee Pundit.

‘No money has been given to Lingan Pundit or Ball Kischen Letchma. He must be paid till the day he died. I must get fresh orders for a pension to his son.

I wish that you would give a hint to Prubbaikur Bellal, that I shall be much displeased if I find Amrut Rao interfering in the affairs of Loghur.

‘ Believe me, &c.

E. S. Waring, Esq.

‘ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

• Tell Mrs. Waring that, notwithstanding the debate at dinner, and her recommendation, we propose to go to Bombay by Panwell, and in the Balloon.'

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ Camp at Panowullah,
23rd May, 1804.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ I send sixty bullocks for the Peshwah. They are of the same size, caste, and color, and are good cattle, but much out of condition. However, that will not much signify for the Peshwah. They are in good health; and a little good forage, and protection from the weather, will bring them about. The drivers who go with them are Mysore men; they will not stay with the Peshwah, and if they would, I could not spare their services. They must, therefore, be sent back; but I see no objection to their staying a few days till his Highness shall have tried other people to take charge of the cattle.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ Camp at Chinchore,
22nd June, 1804.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ Jeswunt Rao Goorparah has requested me to give him a letter to you. His object is to have a ground for troubling you with his master's affairs in Chumargoonda, &c., should it be necessary to give you any trouble; and I have only to request that you will listen to him.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ Camp at Padshappoor,
4th July, 1804.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL,

‘ I enclose the copies of the letters to Appah Saheb and Mohiput Ram. I have every reason to hope that I shall see Appah Saheb at Hoobly.

‘ I get on well, and the weather continues fair.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Colonel the Hon. A. Wellesley to Lieut. Colonel Close.

‘ MY DEAR COLONEL, ‘ Fort St. George,
21st November, 1804.

‘ I have just time to write a few lines to inform you that I arrived here this day, and that I propose to leave this as soon as the bearers can be posted for me.

‘ I shall go to Seringapatam, and from thence either by the route of Darwar or Meritch to Poonah ; or, if I should find the country is not in tranquillity, I shall go to Mangalore, and thence by sea to Bombay. I shall be with you about Christmas by one route or another.

‘ Believe me, &c.

‘ *Lieut. Colonel Close.*’

‘ ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Lieut. General Viscount Wellington to Colonel Malcolm.

‘ MY DEAR MALCOLM, ‘ Badajoz, in Spain,
3rd December, 1809.

‘ I am very much obliged for your letter of the —, which I received about a month ago, and which I thought so interesting, and the sentiments it contained on the situation of affairs at Madras so well deserving the attention, and consideration of the King’s servants, that I sent it to Lord Harrowby, who was at that time President of the Board of Control. I have not received any answer from him, nor do I know what has been determined particularly respecting the state of affairs at Madras. But I understood generally that Sir G. Barlow’s conduct had been approved ; but that it was not intended to confirm the suspension of all the officers who had been suspended by him.

‘ You cannot conceive how much I have felt for what has passed on the Madras Establishment. I scarcely recognize in those transactions the men for whom I entertained so much respect, and had so much regard, a few years back ; and I can only lament that they, and the army, and the affairs of that Presidency in general, have been so much mismanaged. These transactions, and their causes, prove that it is not always the man who has the character of being the best natured, and one of the easiest disposition, who will agree best with those placed in authority over him, or those

with whom he is to co-operate. They owe their origin to the disputes of the persons in authority in India, that is to say, between the Governor and the Commander in Chief. Both, but principally the latter, looked for partizans and supporters; and these have ended by throwing off all subordination, by relinquishing all habits of obedience, and almost by open resistance. Nothing can be more absurd than the pretext for this conduct.

‘Colonel Munro’s opinion might be erroneous, and might have been harsh towards his brother officers; but not only he ought not to have been brought to a Court Martial for giving that opinion, but he ought to have been brought to a Court Martial if he had refrained from giving it, when he was called upon by the Commander in Chief to make him a report on a subject referred to his official consideration. The officers of the army are equally wrong in the part they have taken in the subsequent part of the question, which is one between the Governor and the Commander in Chief, whether the former had a right to protect Colonel Munro from the acts of the latter, upon which question no man can have a doubt who has any knowledge of the Constitution of Great Britain, and particularly of that of the Indian Governments. I, who have arrived pretty nearly at the top of the tree, should be the last man to give up any point of military right or etiquette. But I have no doubt whatever, not only that it was the right, but that it was the duty of the Governor in Council to interfere to save Colonel Munro; and that if he had not done so, and the public had sustained any loss or inconvenience from his trial, or if the public attention had been drawn to the injustice of his trial, the Governor would have been severely responsible for the omission to perform his duty.

‘So far for my opinion upon the main points of the question. As for the others, the conduct of officers upon the addresses, the orders issued, the resolutions entered into, the resignations of their offices, &c., &c., they are consequences of the first error; that is, of persons in authority making partizans of those placed under them, instead of making all obey the constituted authorities of the state. This conduct in the officers of the army would have been wrong even if the cause had been just, and the Commander in Chief had

wished to screen Colonel Munro from the persecution of the Government : and it is really not worth while to take up my time in describing, or yours in perusing, a description of the folly, the inconsistency, or the breaches of discipline and subordination contained in all those documents. I have so much regard for the Madras army, to which I owe much, that I would sacrifice a great deal to have it in my power to restore them to that state of discipline, union, and respectability in which I left them in the year 1805; and I assure you that I shall rejoice most sincerely when I shall hear that their good sense and good temper have predominated over their feelings of party, and their prejudices.

‘ I am very much obliged to you for your account of Persian affairs. I understand that an ambassador has passed Gibraltar, on his way to England; but the question is, on what terms this concession on the part of Persia has been obtained. I am entirely ignorant of all this, and I only wish that you had been the instrument of making this arrangement.

‘ You will have heard of all that has passed in this country, and I will not, therefore, trouble you with a repetition of the story. The battle of Talavera was certainly the hardest fought of modern days, and the most glorious in its result to our troops. Each side engaged lost a quarter of their numbers.

‘ It is lamentable that, owing to the miserable inefficiency of the Spaniards, to their want of exertion, and the deficiency of numbers even of the allies, much more of discipline, and every other military quality, when compared with the enemy in the Peninsula, the glory of the action is the only benefit which we have derived from it. But that is a solid and substantial benefit, of which we have derived some good consequences already; for, strange to say, I have contrived, with the little British army, to keep every thing in check since the month of August last; and if the Spaniards had not contrived, by their own folly, and against my entreaties and remonstrances, to lose an army in La Mancha about a fortnight ago, I think we might have brought them through the contest. As it is, however, I do not despair. I have in hand a most difficult task, from which I may not extricate myself; but I must not shrink from it. I command

an unanimous army; I draw well with all the authorities in Spain and Portugal, and I believe I have the good wishes of the whole world. In such circumstances one may fail, but it would be dishonorable to shrink from the task.

‘Pray remember me kindly to all friends in the East Indies. I do not mention names, as I do not know whom you have with you; but I assure you that I have the most affectionate recollection of them all, and that nothing gives me greater pleasure than to hear of their prosperity.

‘Believe me, &c.

‘Colonel Malcolm.

‘WELLINGTON.

‘You will have seen that your father in law* distinguished himself in the battle of Talavera. He was wounded, and is gone to England; but he is now quite well, and I expect his early return to the army.’

* Brig. General, afterwards Lieut. General Sir Alexander Campbell, K.C.B.

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